

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Patten at 8:51 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 Engineer Piatak, Service Director Cayet, Safety Director Byrnes, Finance Director Cingle, Law Director Jamison, Mayor Coyne and Recreation Director Fields

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to go out of the Regular Order of Business to letter H.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION:

1. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE BOYS 2013-2014 CITY BASKETBALL SEASON CHAMPIONS 'CLIPPERS'

The clerk read the Proclamations for the team members and coaches as Mayor Coyne distributed the proclamations and congratulated the Clippers on a great season.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to go back to the Regular Order of Business. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. Regular Council meeting held on April 15, 2014.

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

2. Special Caucus meeting held on April 30, 2014.

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

3. Special Council meeting held on April 30, 2014.

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

4. Special Council Meeting/Executive Session held on May 1, 2014.

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

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE (ON ANY SUBJECT):

Patti Astorino
6258 Engle Road

Mrs. Astorino read the following into the record: Today I am going to talk about the irony of government, for the past six months I sat at these meetings and watched City Council vote in support of a budget. A budget that includes a fire station in Ward One and a budget that includes a fire station in Ward One, two fire stations in Ward One both miles away from each other. Also I've watched City Council support a budget as the Mayor appointed new directors and all these directors were appointed at the top of the budget and the Mayor's explanation is that you have to pay good money for good people. Yet, I have sat in meetings about the closing of this fire station and heard him constantly condemn the firefighters that they're just about money; Mr. Byrnes you shouldn't allow that. You at one time were an advocate for firemen, shame on you and shame on you too Mayor. If the shoe fits on the right foot it should fit on the left foot there is such a thing as parity. Also I sat in here in January and February and heard the Mayor condone shared services yet you say shared services is the future. I agree with you but you did not want us to borrow a street sweeper from Parma Hts. yet you want us to borrow firemen and fire stations, so I'm very confused. Also, closing a fire station shouldn't always be about politics you may not like the firemen; you may not like my husband; you may not like whatever but it should still be about the quality of life because in fire minutes matter. Mr. Byrnes you know this, you know, a fire in two minutes can multiply a room. You know this Mr. Byrnes you were at one time an advocate and again shame on you. Thank you.

Ada Marcus
6467 East Vancey Drive

Ms. Marcus stated she has lived on East Vancey for the past 25 years and I'm here to address the Mayor and City Council and the fine people that have attended this meeting. I'm not here to make anybody feel bad but I have great concerns on the closing of the fire station; I've heard a lot of downsizing from the Mayor. He seems to be very stubborn and very one-shot minded and he's in one direction it seems like it to me. I'm afraid of what could happen because I live with this oxygen 24/7 and this walker every walking hour of my day and am in constant pain and now I have mental anguish because of the closing of the fire station. I know the Mayor has made up his mind but it scares me because I worry about if I have a problem are they going to get there in time. Or am I going to be one of the casualties that you hear on the news that say. We tried to get to her but couldn't get to her in time for one reason or another and she ran out of oxygen. I remember a few years back when all the power was shut down and that was before I was on oxygen. What would happen to me today if that happened again. I worry about what could happen to me now and do I have a chance of making it another year; month; week because you never know when something is going to happen and until you're in my shoes and walk my path. I'm not looking for pity I'm just looking to get by without all the worry but now I've got all this worry along with the pain and suffering. I have to worry about what's going to

Remarks from the audience on any subject: cont.

happen to me because people who don't have these sort of problems they could be as stubborn as they want to be but if they were walking in my shoes maybe they would have a different viewpoint. Thank you.

Liz Sayers

23065 Cedar Point Road

Ms. Sayers stated I didn't get the question answered the last time I was here.

Mr. Higgins interjected because you left.

Ms. Sayers continued my question was Ralph Majestic wanted to know when the sale of the neighborhood is going to be and if it already was sold. Because when you get rid of a fire station you already have plans to get rid of the neighborhood and with the fire station nobody is going to change Mr. Coyne's mind. He is going to keep his stubbornness and he's going to tell us all about response times and every excuse in the book and he's not going to change his mind. I'm not worried about the fire station anymore because it's not going to happen; we're not going to have that fire station there. He's got too many friends over there that will throw him in the car and drive him to the hospital and doesn't have to worry about anybody coming to his house. I want to know did you sell the neighborhood yet or where's the neighborhood going? Because you got rid of the fire station what's going to happen to the neighborhood because you don't have any compassion for anybody in that neighborhood. You really don't it's all about you so Mr. Coyne, since it's all about you and your response times and all that other garbage that you throw at us to make you look good. We know all about your past; we know all about...

Mr. Patten interjected Liz...

Ms. Sayers interjected I asked a question just like...

Mr. Patten interjected Liz I understand...

Ms. Sayers interjected like the last time Mr. Patten and you said he would get back to me.

Mr. Patten interjected well, Liz let me tell you the neighborhood is not for sale; the neighborhood is not being cut out; we're not doing anything like that. There's one issue at hand here...

Ms. Sayers interjected the fire department...

Mr. Patten interjected you have been at all the meetings and spoken numerous times at every meeting and everybody understands your concerns. I want to be respectful...

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

Ms. Sayers interjected then why doesn't anybody answer why don't you let him answer instead of you.

Mr. Higgins – Mr. Chairman, Point of Order. This resident was here at our last meeting spoke for ten minutes asked about fifteen things and then walked out the door and didn't stick around for a response from anybody...

Ms. Sayers – Why don't you shut up...

Mr. Higgins – Don't sit there at a meeting and then demand an answer from anybody.

Ms. Sayers – I will leave...

Mr. Patten – Liz, Liz, stop...

Ms. Sayers – I will leave but you need to shut your mouth...

Mr. Patten – Liz...

Ms. Sayers – I've got a right to speak my mind...

Mr. Patten – Liz, we're asking you...I understand what your concerns are...

Ms. Sayers – You're asking me but you can't answer the right question. Why is the fire department closed and why is he such a big shot here; closes it up and doesn't give a rat's ass about anybody.

Mr. Patten – Liz, watch your language please there's other people...

Ms. Sayers – Okay then a rat's butt...

Mr. Patten – Liz, get control of yourself...

Ms. Sayers – I am in control...

Mr. Patten – Liz, I'm asking you...

Ms. Sayers – Mr. Patten, Mr. Patten...

Mr. Patten – I'm asking you, we've heard your concerns and you've been to a lot of these meetings. We'll answer your questions and I'm asking if anybody...

Ms. Sayers – When?

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

Mr. Patten – Liz, any other resident that's never had an opportunity to get up and speak this is their opportunity. I'm not going to have you come in here and jeopardize this entire meeting like you have in the past. This is our meeting we control it I'm the Chairman and that's how it's going to be.

Ms. Sayers – You don't know how to answer a question..

Mr. Patten – Liz, I'm asking you to take a seat or leave this meeting right now...

Ms. Sayers – I will leave....

Mr. Patten – Liz, take a seat or leave this meeting. I'm not going to tolerate you coming in here doing that, now enough is enough...

Ms. Sayers – Because you can't answer a question...

Mr. Patten – Liz, have a seat...

Ms Sayers – I will you can't answer a question can you Mr. Coyne.

Mr. Patten – Any other resident please get up and give your name and address for the record.

Frank Kosmerl
15942 Paulding Blvd.

Mr. Kosmerl stated last Wednesday about 8:45 a.m. while taking out the rubbish cans to the treelawn a vicious dog came down the street barking at me loudly. When I went to get the last can to be taken to the treelawn I was starting to get scared because he was going wild by growling and showing his teeth, very terrifying situation. Finally a woman walks down the street and called the dog that finally minded this woman. I called the dog warden and he went down to talk to the people and told me that the dog owners' apologized but it was still terrifying. Mr. Kosmerl continued that in speaking with the neighbors these dogs are always running loose in backyards. Mr. Kosmerl would like to see new ordinances about vicious dogs being registered and moved to a felony if something should happen instead of a fourth degree misdemeanor.

Rochelle Ott
Representative for Heartland Payment System
2001 Aerospace Parkway

Rochelle Ott
13824 Heatherwood

Ms. Ott stated that she is representing Heartland Payment System that has concerns with the closing of the Ruple Road fire station. The facility has approximately 250 employees and part of the move to the City of Brook Park in 2012 was the

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

about the city services that would be offered and the closeness of the fire station. When this fire station closed I was on vacation and was taken by surprise that there was not any notification and actually found out about it on Facebook and Cleveland.com. I drive that route everyday from Heatherwood to Aerospace and there are at least two train tracks going that way. Not only are there 250 employees at Heartland Payment there are 75% females and eight are currently pregnant. Ms. Ott continued that she is the first responder at Heartland being in Human Resources and Fire and EMS have had to be called several times and it's the longest eight minutes when somebody is having a diabetic problem or someone took a fall down the steps. I don't know anything about its going to be this or going to be that or we're going to have this or we're going to have that. What I do know is that the response time is not going to be the same coming from Holland Road as from being the neighbor across the street. I do know that unless there is some sort of serious savings that the city has I don't know how a dollar amount can be put on peoples' lives and as a resident and as someone who works in the City of Brook Park and pays taxes people should be valued at more than whatever savings that is having. In addition I'm upset as well as the company that there was no notification that this was something that people could come and speak about before the closing of the station. This is something that we should have had a voice and a right as employees that work and live here to come to a meeting and tell our thoughts. My third grader is learning about government and what a Councilperson is and a Councilperson at large is and I'm slightly offended to come here and sit and watch people that are reelected to office to speak for us; be berated and feel belittled because they're speaking for us. I appreciate Tom Troyer for what you did I think it takes more bravery and guts than I probably have to do the same thing and that you can't just say we've already talked about it because this is important, obviously. This is my first time here so this is clearly something that is more important than something we talked about before and it was my decision and I decided to make it. I kind of felt like we were being scolded like children and I'm an adult and don't need people to scold me for having an opinion and for challenging you, in fact, that makes you better politicians to be challenged and be better. So all I can say is I really hope that you guys all really think about this and decide that we need to think about the citizens that are being impacted and can't be bullied by other people; we need to think for ourselves and let our voices be heard.

Susan Anderson
5700 Grayland Drive
440-777-7370

Ms. Anderson stated before I get to my prepared comment Council President Patten, Mayor, Council people, directors on behalf of the west end residents I would like to apologize for Liz. She was very emotional as you can see and it is an emotional topic and it's a little embarrassing as a west end resident to see something like this happen. I have not always been, as many of you know, on the same side as the Mayor but the Mayor and I have never, so far come to blows or screamed and yelled at each other. Nor have I yelled at any of you on Council and I certainly hope that we can continue

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

on down that road, so thank you. Mrs. Anderson read a prepared statement into the record that is attached to these minutes.

Ricky Crumbley
6541 Edgehurst

Mr. Crumbley stated as being a public safety official I do see the residents point. As a Village of Valley View where I work we're a lot smaller so even though there is rapid response time and I do know there is mutual aid and I understand everything that goes around with it. I'm here to discuss the two tax levies that are going on the ballot. Why is it necessary to have a Special Election for these tax levies and not doing it in a regular election, no one told me why that's going on so I'd like a response. I heard that the city is scraping the bottom of the barrel but the city is spending \$30,000 to make these taxes be on the ballot sooner.

Mr. Patten responded the reason that was discussed is to not have any other issue on the ballot the taxes would be the sole issue on the ballot for Brook Park; so the tax issues would not be on the ballot with any other levies that may impact the levies.

Mr. Crumbley stated with the Parks & Recreation tax that is going to be on the ballot is that going to affect how much we actually contribute to the recreation center like our membership fees. Since residents will be paying an additional tax to the recreation center are we still going to have to pay the \$80.00 fee to use the recreation center?

Mayor Coyne responded the answer is I don't know at this point in time, depending on what the costs are there and the cost right now for the recreation center is pretty cheap. The city subsidizes the recreation center right now about \$1.7 million dollars a year with the senior programs about \$1.8 million dollars. So a levy will just in fact pay for what the operating costs of the recreation programs and senior programs in totality and why is that being proposed? Because, in fact, your issue about voting the people in this town have never voted about the recreation center and you can appreciate as being a member of a police department often times there's a challenge in the budget for what's a decision. Do you put it in the parks or pay police, fire and service workers and our residents are going to have a choice. Therefore, if we're successful because, we believe, the recreation programs are important and you support that and it passes there will be monies available to compensate our other employees and get the numbers at what they should be. So that's the reason that proposal was put on the ballot that way.

Mr. Crumbley stated it's been stated that if these levies pass it's going to fix everything. If these levies don't pass what's going to happen? The city can't afford to layoff police and fire personnel Brook Park was ranked the fifth safest city in Ohio.

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

Mayor Coyne responded now you understand my dilemma, because that's what the situation is. Our residents never had to pay for the level of services that the city has because we had Ford and NASA Glenn and those operations have diminished. In the short period you're absolutely right and you'll get more literature from me than you care to see and we'll explain and I want to segregate that city income tax has to go to rebuild this city; to build a new police station and new jail. This Council Chambers needs \$40,000 for an air conditioning system and this building isn't worth \$40,000. There are a lot of issues that have to be addressed and I believe that you want a better city so that's why we want to segregate these two taxes. To me if we can generate that revenue by spending \$30,000 and get our residents on that issue about the future of our city alone, that's the kind of political theater that I would like to have. You will get your information and the first thing is the issues have to get numbers and then we'll be out there and you'll here from me and any questions anyone has you can come up here or call me on the phone.

Mr. Crumbley stated I'm around neighboring cities Maple Hts. prime example the taxes keep getting raised and the residents are told raise the taxes and everything is going to be better; so the residents vote on the taxes and that city is on the verge of bankruptcy. So I think as residents we really want to see a plan if we vote for this levy what are we going to get as residents in return? How is this going to help our city?

Mayor Coyne responded you'll see it and I'll also tell you what you'll lose because if the levy doesn't pass you won't have a recreation center. You will have regular recreation programs and all of these discussions occurring tonight are all related because it's about the future of a very special city. We may disagree in this room but not about this town and how this was built especially and how the people worked in this city and for this community. Since 1999 and that airport agreement that I was castigated for we wouldn't be talking today about a fire house or anything else because this city would be out of business. There would be more than structurally deficits this town would be out of business I can assure you, just look at the numbers. You will get all the information and I can assure you what I want to do and hold me responsible but I also want you to hold all of Council responsible that what we say we're going to do with this money is going to happen. I can show you \$40 million dollars of road and sewer work in this that has to be done. Go down Sylvia Drive and see how it's deteriorated Mrs. Powers was talking about fixing chuckholes we can't even repair it anymore so go through various streets in the city and see what has to occur in this town. This city can go downward or stay upright and that's the condition right now and you will have your opportunity to vote and I hope you vote to move this city forward.

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

Ada Marcus
6467 East Vancey Drive

Ms. Marcus stated the other points I wanted to make is I'm worried about response times and when the weather is bad, that's another time delay. Also I have a hard time understanding that isn't this something that should be voted on to close a fire station rather than one person's decision to do it, that's a concern of mine.

Neal Donnelly
6441 Parkland Avenue

Mr. Donnelly stated it is concerning that all Council Members at the first meeting that I attended and was able to speak that the Mayor had every answer to every question there was and if he didn't he would speak for another five minutes until you forget what the question was. Not one other Councilman, except Council President Patten made a plea to the Mayor to not close that station until there was more discussion about it. From that point on Mayor Coyne insisted that he is going to be taking full responsibility for the closing of that station; my tenure as chief of the department I will tell you that the Mayor taking responsibility is so very few and far between. The other issues is the Councilmen just sitting here and not defending the number of people expressing their concerns up here and the Mayor continuing to say I'm responsible for it; he's responsible for the lies we heard both in the meeting one and in meeting two, absolute lies.

Mr. Patten interjected Neal, please do me a favor there's a quorum here to be respectful to everybody.

Mr. Donnelly continued I'm trying to be and lost a lot of respect for you gentlemen and it's hard to be respectful. No one except my Councilman, Tom Troyer, felt that this was wrong, totally wrong along with the stuff that was coming out of Mayor Coyne's mouth at the time by telling us he's responsible and this is what's going to happen. We're already a month into it and we still only have two police cars that have AED's (Automated External Defibrillator) in them and two people that are trained in it. We also know now that the Airport Fire Department is not going to be first responder and as Tom Maund explained it. EMS services will be the first response to us and will actually help the Airport Fire Department out and use the City of Brook Park as guinea pigs. So today the Mayor turns right around and provides the fact that the airport is not going to respond and the fact that police cruisers and police officers are trained. All of this was discussed prior to the closing of the fire station and tonight I heard there was an ordinance that was going to be seen, answered, and listened by all of the Council Members. Two meetings later finally somebody is going to be speaking up and there was some motions here and there until Mayor Coyne started with his statements of how it is and how it's going to be. You're taking responsibility that you put on your own shoulders and not letting Council go through the process. I'm talking about people's lives and I, as one, don't want you

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

responsible for my life in anyway, shape, or form. I wish the other Council Members would give the consideration that this man has been disingenuous to the Members of Council and certainly to the people of the City of Brook Park. Closing a fire station and doing it in a manner that I have never seen in my 29 years as a firefighter with no input allowed. I hope that is taken in by Council Members that you're accepting that man's responsibility and we know historically how responsible he's been.

John Bernath
6242 Adair Court

Mr. Bernath stated I moved into this city 54 years ago and went on Council in 1962 and this city was broke but people in this city did not know that. One rubbish truck that was about 14 years old the mechanics would put a tarp over the top to work on it to keep it running. It broke down on Warner Road by the old dump in the City of Cleveland and I and many of the other Council Members pick up rubbish for two days. The Coury Brothers let us have two of their trucks to pick up rubbish and that same year at Christmas time we spent two weeks picking up Christmas trees for burning. The state came in and said that if this city didn't have the money they would take over so John Poloyne and I sat in a meeting and made a deal with Forest City to come in and save this city because they owned a lot of land. They took out building permits for all the land north of Sylvia, at the time there were no homes in this area. Forest City put in streets and the city borrowed \$600,000 that's how this city was saved at that time and I was on Council 20 plus years and love this city and still do. We closed the fire station on Smith Road and didn't hear anybody come in and complain from West 139th Street which is almost the same distance from this station on Holland Road to that area. Now today with the overpass the fire department can make it quicker, if there are no trains, to the far west end then they can to West 139th Street; I tried it and know it works and the city is now at the point that it needs money. Currently, the city is getting about \$1.9 million dollars for the parking tax and if Council Members think you're right then vote for it. You're here for the city and the 19,000 people that live in this city if you think the Mayor's wrong then vote against him because we have some followers here right now and it's a shame you were voted into office.

Jim Astorino
6258 Engle Road

Mr. Astorino stated I've been a resident since 1960 and in 1962 I was attending Kindergarten that is now North Park Retirement Center. I come here for a couple of reasons, one is that I've been to many Council meetings and have come to a lot this year to watch what is going on in probably a very critical time in Brook Park. There's been discussion tonight about proper decorum and points of order have been called and what I would like to do Mr. President of Council is ask you to also enforce that from people that are speaking from the dais. I come to these meetings and the last meeting I was at you kept correcting me that we're not here to talk about

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

negotiations, however, you constantly let the Mayor talk about contract negotiations from his chair; if it good for the goose it should be good for the gander too. So Councilman Higgins wants to call a Point of Order on a young lady because she's not behaving properly and I would hope somebody on Council would speak up when one of you isn't proper. We had a Councilman that asked for a clarification on the airport deal because he heard that the airport is not responding. That question I don't think was answered, however, during that answer that was given there were comments made about somebody driving a wedge between this airport deal and how inappropriate that was. The negotiations are more about augmenting income and not about safety yet no Councilman up there nor yourself called a Point of Order and put that man in his place by saying we're here to talk about the issue not personalities and not motives, that's how you have productive meetings. We should try to show as much respect as we can for the Council people but you people need to show some respect for us too because I've heard him say nobody loves this city more than he does. I'm guessing it's a tie with a lot of people we all love this city a lot and nobody loves it more than anyone else. So I would ask in the future that I not be subjected to sitting in an audience and listening about how greedy firefighters are. We are not greedy people and are probably some of the most noble employees this city has had and the police are the same. We do things for this community that most people don't want to do and we don't do it just for the money. We do want to get paid but we do it because we love this city and we love our job. We think that we deserve the respect that the job comes with and would like not to have our motives questioned. The airport deal from my understanding is they weren't allowed to do it because once the administration over there found out that it was getting done it could jeopardize federal funding that they have and they are not allowed to go off the property because it could jeopardize federal funding that they receive. That's what they are paid to do is protect the airport, they're not paid to protect Brook Park so when you get into that it's not a question of did we destroy an agreement; did we harm the people? No, what harmed the people back there is the closing of that fire station and the fire chief tried to minimize that by coming up with an agreement with another fire chief; he tried to fix what wasn't fixable. What's fixable is Council people should be taking this ordinance that was put out there put it on the agenda and put it up for a vote and go on the record. I've read an article and the reporter said the Mayor doesn't need approval from Council or from the Brook Park Firefighters Local 1141 or anyone else to close the station, that's what the article said. Well, if you don't take your Council action you're giving approval for it and that's what the people are asking. You have the ability to change the course that he's taken because it's wrong because attending these meetings, attending the budget meetings and reading the newspapers and minutes. I have seen words that say our citizens will get to cast their vote on the level of service they prefer, the public facilities they demand and the value of their own neighborhood and more importantly our citizens will determine how we spend and how we pay. Now you had citizens coming here saying those things and they haven't been given the choice to vote on it. The first meeting that you had in this Council Chamber to talk about this you asked for the compromise after a couple of residents asked for a compromise. Don't close the station until the August ballot and

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

you've closed the station and the people didn't have a chance to vote and they were told that they were going to have a chance to vote on the level of service they prefer and the public facilities that they demand. They're demanding a fire station on the west end and it was taken away from them without a vote, that's not proper. Again, with the Point of Order and the attacks on our motives treat us the way you want to be treated too and that's what I'm asking you to do and enforce that in the future, because I'm tired of sitting in the audience and listening. We've gone through some of this and keep hearing that if these ballot issues don't pass the city is going to be closing. The other thing I want to mention to the Members of Council is employees of this city took a lot of heat because of a change that you guys made on the ballot issues. They were scheduled to be in August and then you guys changed it to put on the November ballot and a lot of heat came to the employees for that and you people were told that was the reason we were doing it. That all of a sudden they needed a lot of concessions and we were facing layoffs and that wasn't part of contract negotiations. That was because of an action you guys take and the action that you guys take don't impact our contract negotiations; the Mayor is the bargaining representative for the City of Brook Park. So we took a lot of heat for it and you guys put it back on the August ballot because you're concerned. From when I watched the meeting the Mayor was publicly announcing that putting it on the August ballot was irresponsible of you; you're spending \$30,000 and he was kind of making remarks in the paper that were negative to you guys. So you said we'll put it on the November ballot and won't do it and then at that meeting he's saying it will be the best \$30,000 that this city has ever spent. He may be shaking his head no but his problem is sometimes he doesn't remember things he says so when you read the minutes and attend the meetings you see the things that are said. When it got put back on the August ballot the employees were still on the hook for a lot of things that you guys started but the two things mainly are first off try to control yourselves as much as you try to control us with conversations. Conversations should be about the subject they shouldn't be about motives or about personalities. The second part is have the decency to put this on the agenda, this ordinance about the fire station. Council show some courage and put it on the agenda don't just make motions that it's being discussed and just keep pushing it down the road saying we'll never have to vote on this. You guys need to go on the record are you for that side of town having fire protection and ambulance service or are you willing to jeopardize that because when you hear about response times and when you hear that the people on West 139th didn't suffer. The distance from Fire Station 3 from Fire Station 2 with the route that they have to take is approximately four miles so if you live west of that station it's four more miles that they have to come. Now if you travel from the Holland Road station to West 130th it's a little over a mile maybe close to two miles. The Holland Road station covers this side of town within that four mile range the vast majority of it. It is travel distance and you have to deal with miles because as the one lady said what happens when the weather is bad. When there's a lot of snow going one mile is going to take a lot longer than if it's a day like today sunny. That's all the comments I have to say and please consider the ordinance that is before you

Remarks from the Audience on any subject: cont.

now you still have time to act and can use it at the next meeting, I think you need to do something. Thank you.

John Bernath
6242 Adair Court

Mr. Bernath stated it's evident that the man hasn't drove the distance and tried it from here to West 139th Street in the back. I did and know the exact mileage and did the same thing out through the back because this was happening one night I was coming here. Another point the Mayor has a lot of authority in many different things and the Council shouldn't get in on it. No Council except for myself attended meetings when the city was negotiating with Cleveland for NASA Glenn and Brookpark Road; I was at every single meeting. The underpasses with the railroads I was at those meetings but no other Council Members were there. A lot of firemen don't like me but when I was on Council I introduced legislation to make the firefighters work eight hours five days a week and rotate every month like the policemen used to have to do. Mayor Coyne wasn't with me and stood up for the firefighters but if the votes would have been there the firefighters would be working five days a week today.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:**Aviation & Environmental Committee – Chairman, Higgins**

Mr. Higgins stated no report this evening.

Finance Committee – Chairman, D'Amico

Mr. D'Amico stated the Board of Control met earlier this evening and approved 28 items on the agenda and the Finance Committee has two items on tonight's agenda.

Legislative Committee – Chairman, Troyer

Mr. Troyer stated no report this evening.

Parks & Recreation Committee – Chairman, Burgio

Mr. Burgio stated on June 10th the seniors will be visiting North Park for breakfast and bingo; signups at the club are necessary. Also there will be variety show at Carrie Cerinos and a Salute to our Veterans at 10:00 a.m. on June 17th.

Planning Committee – Chairman, Mencini

Mr. Mencini stated the committee met last night and approved new signs at Brookgate Shopping Center; an existing parking lot and additional entrance at 18664 Sheldon Road for the Abrams Creek Baptist Church; six telecommunications co-locations at both Sheldon and Brookpark Roads that will be forwarded to City Council. The commission tabled a conditional use permit for a smoke shop to be located 4980 West 150th Street and granted a request for an easement agreement between Koch Properties, LTD located at 24000 Sheldon Road. Last month the committee tabled the RTA station improvements in order to see if a restroom could be installed and at last night's meeting RTA representatives informed the committee that the RTA board said no due to security issues; the commission voted to move ahead with the RTA improvements project.

Reports from Standing Committees: cont.

Mr. Jamison stated the federal law changed a few years ago and basically mandates that for any existing telecommunications tower that if an owner is coming in and co-locating; swapping or adding other equipment onto the tower. Cities cannot stop that provided that the dimension of the existing tower in terms of height, width, or parameters is not changed.

Safety Committee - Chairman, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore stated no report this evening.

Service Committee – Chairwoman, Powers

Mrs. Powers stated no report this evening.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Chairman, D’Amico

Mr. D’Amico stated the Board of Zoning Appeals met last night and approved several variances for fences, an above ground pool and the Abrams Creek Baptist Church expansion.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Southwest General Health Center – Trustee, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore stated that Southwest General received an ‘A’ rating for hospital safety that includes a score report on becoming number one for no accidents, injuries or any type of infections.

Berea Board of Education – Representative, Mencini

Mr. Mencini stated the next meeting will be June 9th and school ends this Thursday and the staff, students, teachers, superintendent and board had a great year and there are great schools in this community.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION:

Note: Moved by motion to the beginning of the meeting.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Coyne stated at the appropriate time I would like to get the permanent appointment of Ted Hurst as Building Commissioner. Mr. Chairman I feel that I’d be remiss if I didn’t make some remarks about this evening because they’re important to the people of the community and they are important to the people of the west end. While I’m used to attacks on my personal character, unfortunately, they don’t bother me anymore and most of my problems were a result of my own behavior. At no time in my public life have I ever misled or let the people of this city down. One may argue that I’ve led this city through some of its toughest times and its greatest times and I do care about this city; it’s a boastful thing that maybe I love Brook Park more than anyone else. I’m going to say that not that you love it less but I’m going to say that and I’m going stick by that and that’s why I’m back here as Mayor. This city had a race Mr. Astorino who addressed this Council earlier was a candidate for Mayor of this city and with all my faults and all my problems the people of this city decided

Reports and Communications from the Mayor: cont.

they wanted Tom Coyne back as Mayor. Why was that? Mr. Astorino read exactly what I said in my literature word for word and that's about the only thing he quoted correctly by the way. What I said is what I was going to do and I have done that and I'm going to do everything I can to maximize the service of the people of this community in totality. To say that I don't have compassion for this city I beg to differ with you and will challenge anybody on that particular issue. I have heard about how the Council President should keep me in check about making comments about negotiations or anything else. I've got news for you it's my responsibility to report every action to this city and to this Council and through the proper channels I have done that. I did not say that 1141 interfered with the Cleveland agreement we became aware of that when safety union forces raised that at their negotiations. We'll see whether or not if they can't be a simultaneous responder or whether they can have mutual aid or not because I'm wondering if we can send folks over there. You see the snowball effect of where this is going and I can't believe that any law enforcement officer or safety officer would deny the aid of a capable person by their side; I can't imagine a condition like that ever existing. I am sorry that the chief over there at the fire department-safety department at the airport can't do what he wanted to do; I'm sorry about that because that would have aided us. I didn't make my decision last month or the month before 20 years ago I saw what happened in this city with the opening of a fire station during a campaign. You want to talk about political, and the seven people hired and this city's been in this mess ever since. So I didn't make this decision yesterday or in a vacuum without studying times. Chief Maund made the greatest comment about the fire station on Ruple Road it's a myth; there is no one there 24 hours a day; those folks are responding all over the city and that's what my responsibility is. What really disturbs me the most is that people are being whipped up into a frenzy about how they're not going to be protected and that's bull. Not one person up here, especially me, is ever going to design a plan to not protect residents. This city has some issues to address and we're going to address them. Mr. Chairman I would like the clerk to read into the record a document that I think outlines the truth about what's really happening here. This was given to me by Jim Astorino and I want it read into the record because I think it's important for the people of the west end to know this. I have tried not to do this but the fact of the matter is that woman coming up here worrying about her safety is needless and whipping these people up is needless. This is a factual document and what happened today when I met with the unions and responses like this is what showed me that some employees didn't understand how serious the condition was. Therefore, I made a determination along with the Finance Chairman that we could not risk being in that position the first of the year with that \$1.5 subsidy. I would like this read into the record, Mr. Chairman and that's part of my report to Council and the people of this city.

Mr. Patten stated Mayor this has to be actually given to Council for review before read in public.

Reports and Communications from the Mayor: cont.

Mr. Salvatore stated I'm not sure what it says but if the Mayor wants it read into the record he can read it himself.

Mayor Coyne read into the record – this is dated 3-18-14 and Mr. Astorino can dispute this if this is not what was submitted to us. This is the beginning of discussion of the finances and where we were going and compensation with the contract and I can report to Council what the situation is. People I'm not precluded from doing that negotiations are over anyway. There were two Assistant Fire Preventions officers at 8% 1800 and 1800 and they were dropping an unfair labor practice against us. 0% 2014; wage reopener in 2015 and 2016 and a seven-man minimum clause, and everybody knows what the nine-man did to this town. With a cap of 150 hours; professional pay \$750.00 the same given to the policemen and they're paid that to keep proficient on the defibrillators. Sick leave bonus; change to continued education; from overtime to comp time 50 hours but here's the best one. Union would agree not to oppose closing of Station 2 or further tax increases or levies and that's not from me that is from Mr. Astorino. So to get up here and tell folks that this is paramount to their safety but be willing to give it away for this compensation, to me, is unbelievable and I have tried for these many months to stop doing this because I don't want our people... This decision has nothing to do with politics it has to do with protecting these people and Patti Astorino's comment of I don't like her husband; I have a lot of respect for Jim Astorino and what he does for his men; except where it collides with what I have to do as Mayor of this city. To get reports from folks on Facebook is needless banter that I've had up to here. We are going to move forward and if Council wants to rescind anything that I'm going to do managing this city I will challenge it under my rights because it's the right thing to do, because this must all end. People are afraid and this is why we are at this point right now because of the threat to politics and that they're not going to get the support. Or somebody's going to run something against him and that's why were here in this position today. So the fact of the matter is that you're going to get protection and I'm sorry that other thing didn't work out but it wasn't part of my proposal and finally let me say this in challenging my appointment as safety director. First of all none of my appointments are at top salary and the reason I chose Dave Byrnes as safety director of this city is because of the experience that he has particularly in negotiations and his understanding of how schedules work. What no one wants is a challenge not only in Brook Park but in every city in this county of who is going to manage the city. Is it going to be done by contractual obligations or is it going to be done by public managers. Who is going to make sure that not only is fair compensation but public operations are managed properly; that is what this is all about this evening and has been about for months and months.

Mr. Mencini stated if we don't start working together to move this city ahead we could be like the City of Maple Hts. and we don't want to be there. We have great safety forces as well as recreation and service departments staff. My point being is that this city must move ahead and I don't like the station closing but we need to move ahead.

Questions/Answers: cont.

Mr. Higgins stated one of my residents in my ward today, Ms. Ott, and I appreciate her showing up and constructive criticism is always welcome here. I will tell you a lesson on political posturing and that's what I think we got from Councilman Troyer tonight with this piece of legislation. I will tell you this as a voting member up here never once was I contacted by Councilman Troyer to support that piece of legislation, not a phone call, not an email as of some of the Council Members that I talked to that's called political posturing and that's how I looked at that legislation that Mr. Troyer had in front of us. As far as this station closing over there I represent most of the streets off of West 130th in my ward and there is East Park and North Park on the east side of Smith Road and when there's a squad outside of the Holland Road station, maybe at East Park. No one talked about how long of a run you have from Ruple Road to my house or my mom's house or Patti Astorino mom's house over by the cemetery if there is a mutual run at the same time and we're talking about the entire city and having two squads out of Holland Road equals out to the betterment for the entire city. So when the decision was made to close the West 130th station and there's a squad at either East Park and/or North Park and living on Elmdale I see the squads by a lot. If a second call comes in that squad is coming all the way from Ruple Road to my ward. So it's going to benefit the majority of the people in Ward 4 and in Ward 3 Mrs. Powers' ward and is going to be a benefit for the city as a whole. It might increase the response times on the west end there's no question about it but for the entire community this is going to benefit the entire community.

Mr. Troyer stated political posturing I did this through all kinds of people coming at me for different reasons. I did this because I feel the people are not safe and the response times are not adequate. The reason you didn't get a call is because I turned this legislation in on Tuesday and it was not even approved I believe until about 3:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. this afternoon when it came back from legal. So it wasn't even going to be there and this is the reason that I want it on the next Caucus meeting so I can call you during the week and lobby you, sort of speak, and tell you what the situation is and what I knew. This is the way things went, through no fault of my own, and that legislation needed to get on a meeting agenda and there was no time this afternoon to call everybody. I did call a few people but that's how it went so you can say that but this was about the safety of the residents and that's it.

Mr. Higgins stated maybe Mr. Troyer should check with Mrs. Anderson she seemed to know about it a week ago or so.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS:**Engineer Piatak**

Mr. Piatak stated with the May 12th flooding I am still in the process of gathering information on the complaints received and have been in contact with Liberty Bell property managers. A questionnaire is in the works that will be mailed to all residents

Reports and Communications from other departments, commissions, public officials: cont.

affected with flooding and also a request has been made to have some city sewers televised to assess their conditions for any collapse or things of that nature. Once all information is received a meeting will be requested to make a presentation to Council to address the flooding issues. The Engle Road Resurfacing Project has begun on the north end of the street by Ford Motor Company and will continue down. The Smith Road Sanitary Project Phase III is scheduled to go out to bid tomorrow with bids being opened on July 2nd.

Mr. Higgins stated a phone call was received a few weeks ago in regards to the pieces and parts for the Holland Road Railroad Crossing. Is it still in line to put in the loop and finish up as soon as school lets out.

Mr. Piatak responded yes.

Mr. Burgio stated when the Phase III Sanitary Sewer Project begins what will the timeline be?

Mr. Piatak responded there is a twelve month completion period.

Service Director Cayet

Mr. Cayet stated next week the Senior Grass Program will begin with approximately 230 homes to be cut. There are a few new part-time workers to cut the vacant homes and/or lots and the department is working with both the Building and Finance Departments to keep up with the billing per the new ordinance recently passed.

Mr. D'Amico stated there is an empty lot next to Bali's that has tall grass that needs to be cut, if not done already. Also to both Mr. Cayet and Mr. Hurst that the contractor for Bali's throws the grass into the street and that can't be tolerated because it then goes into the catch-basin.

Mr. Cayet responded in the past that vacant lot was cut by Bali's and now that parcel is owned by an LLC service department crews cut that grass this afternoon.

Safety Director Byrnes

Mr. Byrnes stated that most of the concerns from City Council Members have been addressed.

Mr. Burgio stated to Safety Director Byrnes that a complaint was received regarding the sticking traffic light on Remora and Smith.

Mr. Byrnes stated that Signal Service was contacted and that signal most likely was messed up during the recent repaving. Signal Service will check the signal out and make the necessary justifications to get it working the way it was before.

Reports and communications from other departments, commissions, public officials: cont.Law Director Jamison

Mr. Jamison stated no report this evening.

Recreation Director Fields

Ms. Fields stated that the department is offering for the first time Players Clinics for baseball, girls softball and coaches to teach all instructional and fundamentals to the volunteer coaches and participants. The water park will open this coming Friday at 12:00 noon.

Finance Director Cingle

Mr. Cingle stated that May monthly financial reports will be distributed in the next few days.

**OTHER COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND VERBAL APPROVAL:
(INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION):**Verbal Approval

1. 2015 Tax Budget

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Higgins, to verbally approve.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

2. REVISED TEAMSTERS 436 AGREEMENT

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Burgio, to verbally approve.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS):

1. Permanent appointment of Building Commissioner – Ted Hurst

Mayor Coyne stated Council was gracious and allowed a temporary appointment of Ted Hurst as the city's building commissioner which will be ending at the end of the month. Mr. Hurst has made great progress with property maintenance and homes being demolished that should have been demolished in past years and warrants the permanent appointment.

Mr. D'Amico stated that Mr. Hurst has been a great asset to the city and has done well with property maintenance and other issues that have been asked of him.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Higgins, to appoint Mr. Hurst as the city's permanent building commissioner.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Patten congratulated Mr. Hurst on his permanent appointment.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES: (FIRST READING):

1. ORDINANCE NO. 9914-2014, 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

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to amend the third Whereas to insert language 'in order to augment the investment policy set forth in Chapter 136 of the Brook Park Codified Ordinances.

Mr. Jamison stated in discussions with Councilman D'Amico and the Finance Department for clarification this legislation will be read together with Chapter 136 of the codes so there is no confusion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Burgio, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, Troyer, Salvatore
NAYS: None. The amendment carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Burgio, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, Troyer, Salvatore
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. Troyer, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Burgio, Troyer, D'Amico, Salvatore, Mencini, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. Ord. No. 9914-2014, has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted as amended.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 9915-2014, 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

Motion by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. Mencini, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Burgio, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, D'Amico, Troyer, Salvatore
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Higgins, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Higgins, Powers, Burgio, Mencini, Salvatore Troyer
NAYS: None. Ord. No. 9915-2014 has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 14-2014, 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

Introduction of Resolutions and Ordinances: (First Reading): cont.

Motion by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. D'Amico, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Burgio, D'Amico, Troyer, Salvatore, Mencini, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Troyer, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Troyer, Salvatore, Mencini, Burgio, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. Res. No. 14-2014 has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

4. ORDINANCE NO. 9916-2014, AMENDING CHAPTER 136 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES, ENTITLED 'INVESTMENT AND DEPOSITORY POLICY' AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Burgio, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Burgio, Higgins
NAYS: Powers. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1. Adopted.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 15-2014, DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JULY AS 'BUY AMERICAN MONTH' IN THE CITY OF BROOK PARK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Councilwoman Powers and Council Members Troyer, Mencini, Higgins, D'Amico, Burgio, Salvatore, Council President Patten and Mayor Coyne

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Burgio, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Burgio, Powers, Higgins
NAYS: None. Res. No. 15-2014, has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted as amended.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 9917-2014, AMENDING SECTION 153.09 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED 'BONDS' Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to suspend.

ROLL CALL: AYES: D'Amico, Burgio, Mencini, Powers, Higgins, Troyer, Salvatore
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Higgins, supported by Mr. Troyer, to adopt.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Higgins, Troyer, D'Amico, Salvatore, Mencini, Burgio, Powers
NAYS: None. Ord. No. 9917-2014 has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 9918-2014, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO HIRE AN INSPECTOR FOR THE 2014 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Introduction of Resolutions and Ordinances: (First Reading): cont.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to suspend.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to adopt.

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

NAYS: Powers. Ord. No. 9918-2014, has passed under Suspension of the Rules with a vote of 6-1. Adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES: (SECOND READING):

THIRD READING OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

There being no further business to come before this meeting a motion by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Burgio, to adjourn. Members of Council voted AYE. Council President Patten declared this meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED Michelle Blazak
Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED August 19, 2014

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

Read into the record

Tuesday, 03 June 2014 – Brook Park City Council Meeting
Susan M. Anderson, 5700 Grayland Dr., Brook Park OH 44142 (Tel: 440-777-7370)



Mayor Coyne, Council President Patten, Council Members, Directors, and Council Clerk Blazak:

Many of you sitting here tonight have had to call Brook Park firefighters/EMT's to come to your homes for yourselves or loved ones, and I'm sure that you were extremely grateful for the rapid response times you were provided.

The West End residents were advised by Mayor Coyne at his meeting on Thursday, May 29, 2014 that the Hopkins Fire Dept. would be the first responders to our area, with the Holland Rd. Fire Dept. also responding. At that meeting, we were assured by Mayor Coyne and Brook Park Fire Chief Maund that the response times from the Hopkins Fire Dept. would be adequate to meet the needs of the West End residents.

We have now learned the Hopkins Fire Dept. will no longer be the first responders. In fact, they are no longer permitted to respond unless there is a catastrophic event. With the Mayor's decision to close the Ruple Rd. Fire Station, the West End is totally dependent upon the Holland Rd. Fire Station to respond to our needs. Consequently, I ran a comparison of the distances and times to your homes from the Holland Rd. Fire Station, using normal, non-emergency driving conditions:

Rick Salvatore: 1.7 miles, 5 minutes	Tony D'Amico: 1.3 miles, 4 minutes
Brian Higgins: 1.5 miles, 4 minutes	Carl Burgio: 1.2 miles, 2 minutes
Tom Troyer: 0.5 miles, 2 minutes	Jimmy Mencini: 0.7 miles, 2 minutes
Jan Powers: 1.6 miles, 4 minutes	

The Holland Rd. Fire Station is approximately six miles from my home via Sheldon Rd. (12 minutes) and approximately five miles from my home via Aerospace Parkway (11 minutes) thus tripling the distance and time from the Ruple Rd. Fire Station (two miles from my home; four minutes).

In 1958, before Brook Park became an incorporated city, there was a reason Fire Station #2 was built. When you compare the Holland Rd. response times to the West End against the response times afforded City Council members, this reason should be abundantly clear. Should the West End residents suffer longer response times than those of you on City Council? Should we be punished simply because we live on the West End?

You each know how serious long response times can be in matters of illnesses and accidents, or property destruction by fire.

I'd like to believe that you each know in your hearts what is the right thing to do for the West End residents: The re-opening of Fire Station #2.

Thank you.