

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO  
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

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

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

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

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:**

1. Regular Caucus meeting held on August 4, 2015  
**Motion** by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

2. Regular Caucus meeting held on August 18, 2015.  
**Motion** by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

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**DISCUSSION:**

1. ARTS & CULTURE LEVY – PER COUNCIL PRESIDENT PATTEN  
**In attendance: County Councilman, Dale Miller**

Mr. Patten stated due to State Representative Sweeney's wife passing County Councilman Miller will appear on the next Caucus agenda.

2. SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM – Councilman Troyer

Mr. Troyer I've been mulling over this for a while and kind of happy that the city was going to have something for the seniors. I asked for multiple questions to be answered three weeks ago information: How many events has the city had per season, how many times did city crews plow senior drives; were driveways plowed on the two-inch snowfall or other factors; how many homes and/or drives on the list to be plowed; how many trucks were needed for plowing of senior driveways; how many average hours were needed to plow senior driveways and how many homes does the city expect to utilize with this new program based on the current guidelines? None of

**Discussions: cont.**

those questions have been answered; a lot of other people have had questions. I've come up with some amendments to this but right now I would like to move to table this legislation until those questions are answered.

Mr. Patten stated the legislation is not on the Caucus agenda the amendments would have to be made at the Council meeting.

Mr. Troyer stated that he would like more discussion on this and distributed amendments to Council. Mr. Troyer continued the first amendment would use this new legislation and limit to \$50.00 that the qualified participant would have to pay. My biggest concern is that we're still helping the people that really need this and they will still be able to afford it; because we don't have any numbers on what the contractor is going to charge or what we're going to be able to pay. We know what we have into it as far as what was appropriated for the program but we don't have any exact numbers on what it's going to cost and what it might cost the seniors that qualify. The next amendment is a way to modify...if we don't do that one amendment then these other amendments would change it to do two things. Number one it would be a \$50.00 registration fee and the city would pick up the total cost for the people who qualify. Then we would also have the ability to contract out the people who do not qualify would be able to get the discount. So these amendments allow the City of Brook Park to change the services are provided to residents without forcing the senior citizens to bear too much of the burden of the cost-shifting. Instead of bearing the burden we are asking the seniors to share some of the burden by paying an increased registration fee. If the city gets 1,000 registrants the city will collect \$50,000 in registration fees instead of the \$10,000 under the old fee structure. Based on the financial reports provided by the Finance Director I believe the city has the ability to provide snow removal service in a matter that is less expensive to our senior citizens; that is currently being proposed in this amended ordinance. We're also ahead of the game as far as our budget - General Revenue Fund has pulled in close to \$15 million dollars and our General Fund expenses are roughly \$13.2 million dollars; so we're ahead of the game by a \$1.8 million at this point. So I think we could afford to do this especially since we're asking the residents in the old version...especially since we're asking the residents to pay more and it doesn't even have to be that much but we just don't have the information on how many times we plowed; I don't have this, I've asked for this and don't have it.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Mr. Troyer what are you referring to as the old version/legislation?

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Troyer stated the legislation that we haven't amended; it's actually in place right now. We don't have to do anything and if the Mayor would go ahead and have the appropriate personnel do the work it's already there. The ordinance has never gone away it's just that the Mayor decided not to do it.

Mayor Coyne commented that's not true.

Mr. Salvatore continued your amendment that you're proposing and just handed out tonight is in reference to making an amendment to something that Council has not passed yet, is that correct?

Mr. Troyer responded no, it's an amendment to the ordinance that we're going to eventually vote on; so it's an amendment to the amended budget.

Mr. Salvatore clarified that's what I just said. So you want to make an amendment to something that has not been passed yet, is that correct?

Mr. Troyer stated I'm making an amendment to what we're going to amend; to how we're going to amend it.

Mr. Salvatore continued you're proposing the maximum of \$50.00 per resident for numbers that you don't know what they are yet; you haven't got the numbers yet.

Mr. Troyer responded correct, because we were able to do it for \$10.00.

Mayor Coyne stated you weren't able to do it for \$10.00 it was an arbitrary \$10.00 fee that was going to be charged just for seniors to register and see if they qualified; that's what that was for. We provided the information to you before on this program and had Finance Director Cingle update it today. In 2014 I think we plowed senior driveways 12 times and it runs about \$6,000 every time we do this, everything included; so that's about \$72,000 a year. You say the Mayor refused to do this - the personnel was laid-off and I keep reading this literature that you attribute these outstanding financial movements that you make. The fact of the matter is the real change in our operation was the reduction in force to the tune of about \$1.7 million dollars; that's what occurred, nothing else. The fact as the law director, finance director and myself and in talking to contractors who did this last year...it appears we're going to have four where last year we only had three last year will average somewhere between \$270.00 and \$300.00 for a season. We could have as many as 1,000 or as little as 850

**Discussion: cont.**

participants depending upon who applies, we don't know; that's why the program was structured that way. So in this case, I don't know where you're going to get the extra \$250.00 for the city to absorb to pay this, now you're going to be talking \$250,000 (quarter of a million dollars) it's not there and you didn't vote for the transfer to pay for this program to fund this either. So for you to get up here this evening and pretend like we have this grave concern about providing these services. I believe in talking to almost all the Members of Council about this issue we're trying to help those who have the greatest need. This isn't inaugural season for this I think it will work well and the senior could get more than \$50.00 depending on who signs up by the appropriation; or they could get \$100.00 depending upon; which would give them a greater impact in addressing their needs. So all I ask Council to do in my discussions with the various members was let's try this program, let's see how it works, if we can expand it or correct it let's move from there. Also, I want to say this is a one-time funding source for this Council is going to have to work next season to do this; so I applaud their ability to go through the budget and work with the administration to get this done. Finally, again passing legislation is the easy part, there are two directors up here, implementing the policies to carry out the intent of this legislation is much more difficult to be successful at. So all I ask Council to do is we have a number that we appropriated in the budget and have other money in the cost-center if it's more. I believe giving the seniors as much as a monetary assistance as possible for the greatest number is what we should try to attain for those who are really needy and I believe that's the way this legislation is structured.

Mr. Troyer stated I believe you just said it cost us \$72,000 for a season...

Mayor Coyne interjected I said it's roughly \$6,000 and in 2014 we plowed the driveways 12 times, I venture to say 20 times last year. So using 2014 it's about \$6,000 a push that's the workers and everything else and you don't have them anymore; that's the real reason that we have to look at alternative ways or abandoning it all together. I think this is much wiser to try to provide some assistance because those employee numbers aren't coming back.

Mr. D'Amico stated as the Finance Chair we went through this budget March 31<sup>st</sup> mandated by the state and we appropriated funds and five of us voted for the funds to be put in place for the snow removal program. At that time two people didn't vote and one was yourself, as the Mayor stated, and I just wanted to say that myself but the thing is we all want the best for our seniors at the lowest cost available to them, there's no doubt. I think right now at this point since, I think you might have even said it yourself, since

**Discussion: cont.**

we have not gotten any bids out from the contractors that if we don't put anything down any further and accept the legislation as is so to get moving on it and make the adjustments when necessarily need them, I don't want this to become a political football at the seniors expense when right around the corner we need to get this going.

Mr. Troyer stated this is kind of like let's pass it so we can see what's in it. To Finance Director Cingle it appears through August the city has received nearly \$15 million dollars in general fund revenue and expenditures were run on \$13.2 million dollars. Do we really need the transfer of the \$1 million dollars from Sound Insulation Fund or do we have enough balance in the General Fund to cover these expenses?

Mr. Cingle responded to answer your question simply it depends on how much you want to spend down the reserves. Right now the city is not in compliance with the fund balance reserve policy and is trying to claw back the reserves in order to meet that policy. If Council wishes not to transfer those dollars to Economic Development that's Council's wishes but the question is how much do you want to draw down the reserves. Because you would be adding expense to the General Fund and additional stress to the General Fund; so that's Council's decision to make.

Mr. Troyer continued to Finance Director Cingle but we're up \$1.8 million at this point in the budget. At this point at the end of the year we'd be putting \$1.8 million dollars into the reserves.

Mr. Cingle stated you're looking at a snapshot through August 31<sup>st</sup> as I stated to Council last year the second half of the year, especially the last quarter of the year income tax collections are slow; property tax dollars which is the second largest source of revenues in the General Fund are already received. So you always see a little bit of a spike through July, August and then you'll start seeing the balance drop because the revenue sources slow down towards the latter part of the year. So what you see now is that increase in fund balance that will shrink again due to expenses continuing and revenues slowing.

Mr. Troyer continued we have not yet transferred to the General Fund which we in the budget appropriated \$1.375 million dollars is still not transferred into that General Fund which would also bring that number much higher, obviously \$1.4 higher. From what I look at from your reports we're also up on our revenue about \$600,000 year to date, is that true?

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Cingle responded the \$1.375 million dollars in transfers that you're referencing \$1 million dollars of that is coming from the Sound Insulation Program; that money will come into the General Fund and will move out of the General Fund. So it's a zero sum there's not going to be a \$1 million dollar increase to the General Fund balances that money will come in and then will be transferred to Economic Development; so it will not increase the General Fund by \$1 million dollars. Again, I caution you that through August yes revenues are up and expenses are tracking a little lower than anticipated but we still have four months left in this year and revenues will slow, receipts will slow the last quarter of the year.

Mr. Troyer stated that's surprising with Ford Motor putting on more people. So the \$1 million dollars that I was against taking from the Sound Insulation Fund, which I think is needed for that issue, has not been transferred and we're still up \$1.8 million dollars.

Mr. Mencini stated there are a lot of seniors asking me they want to know about the senior snow program; the seniors are asking contractors and want to know what the city is going to do. This is something that Mr. Higgins, Mr. Patten and Mr. Cayet can tell you that nothing rings phones more at the service garage than senior driveways. I worked down there for 30 years and know that the seniors call and monies come in and hopefully next year it will and we will get some every year and won't have to worry about it and won't have to have these debates. I do want to give the seniors now and that's exactly how I feel on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Higgins stated we're having a lot of discussion on something and why don't we call this the way it is, it's political propaganda. Mr. Troyer has an election in two months he voted against funding this senior program in the first place.

Mr. Troyer – Point of Order

Mrs. Powers – Point of Order

Mr. Higgins – Mr. Chairman I'd like to hear the Point of Order.

Mr. Patten – What's your Point.

Mr. Troyer – He's off subject.

Mr. Patten – He's talking about snow removal.

**Discussion: cont.**

Mrs. Powers – No, he talks about snow removal.

Mr. Higgins – Can I continue Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Patten – Go ahead.

Mr. Higgins – Thank you I recently read that we're allowed to have differences of opinions; there was some kind of editorial in the Hometown News about my behavior. Unfortunately, I'm not going to stop from being who I am, I'm going to tell the truth because the truth never changes. Now I'm seeing this as political propaganda to a guy that didn't vote to fund this program in the first place because he has an election let's move on.

Mrs. Powers stated I was the other person who voted against this. I am against this because it does not give us enough information and yes seniors want to know what's happening. They want to know number one is it coming back; number two how much is it going to cost and can the seniors afford it. I think that we're under discussion and I would like to see the program come back totally as it was before. With 60 year-olds being able to get their snow plowed as well as 70 year-olds and every time we get a piece of paper or every time somebody quotes a cost it's different. So we need some actual figures and I have asked the finance director for the actual figures for 2013-2014 which was the last snow year and was the last year that the city actually had the snow removal program; we didn't have one for 2014-2015. So that is the number we need to go by and I have not been able to get that information so until we can get the actual information we don't need to be passing something.

Mayor Coyne stated it's irrelevant what it costs before, it's absolutely irrelevant. Has no bearing on this whatsoever because those employees are not there anymore.

Mrs. Powers interjected maybe we should bring back those employees.

Mayor Coyne continued okay, Councilwoman you show me in the budget where you can afford to do that. This is interesting we continue to demonstrate up here, with all do respect, a fundamental misunderstanding of the budgetary process of this city because both of you Council Members I've tried to work with for you to have that understanding, as it was shared with me when I started as a Council person. The statements that you make, for instance, this \$1.8 million dollars we have three more months to operate the City of Brook Park there's not snow removal or storms in here or any

**Discussion: cont.**

other kind of thing, a snowstorm could be \$80,000. So there are further expenditures here so we go and look at these numbers and alluding to the fact that we have enough money in our budget to solve all these problems of the city defies reality. So what I'm saying to you is I originated these programs as a member of City Council in 1977 and they've been expanded, contracted, the ages have changed, the registration has been changed and disabled issues are the hardest issues to enforce. So the reality of the city is this we cannot afford to deliver this service out of our service department anymore; that's a reality no matter what anybody does up here. So how can we change the way we deliver the service we're going back to last year Councilman Salvatore, Councilman Higgins talked about how we can accomplish this. The fact of the matter is looking at this and the City of Seven Hills has a similar program that the law director researched and what that city does in bring these contractors in and make them literally agree to the same price for everybody and they kind of divide up the city. The research I'm doing right now is going to cost somewhere between \$270.00 and \$300.00; so we're going to pressure them as much as possible to get that price down. So you could if you take the registration away and let's just say right now we have \$80.00 a household, that's \$90.00 a year and it might be \$100.00 a year that we can do this depending on who registers. These people will be locked into a price and we will pay a voucher to these contractors for this assistance that's the best we can do. So the fact of the matter is why you think we have to change things, because we like it or as I hear Brian quoting the Hometown News the Mayor is punishing people. It is my responsibility to run this city everyday and it's your responsibility to appropriate the money and pass the laws needed to implement the best services for the people and I can tell you right now we will begin to meet the challenge here and I think this will be successful for people who need it the most. We even through and need tested and used the same formula on income as the hospital does to assist people who are in need; so I think we have a pretty well structured program. All I'm telling Council is you will have nothing or you will can have this.

Mrs. Powers stated since we're speaking in reality the reality is that in December, 2013 we had fully funded all services; senior programs, roads, rubbish pickup everything was fully funded. That year the budget was just over \$13 million dollars as of now we have \$14 million dollars in the General Fund and have a dysfunctional recreation center and had most of our rubbish collection taken away and most of the senior programs taken away and you're saying that we cannot afford senior snow plowing and cannot get information from our city as to exactly what city snow plowing costs. As for changing from a 60 year old to a 70 year old; 60 year olds are not able to be out there shoveling snow, that's my opinion. I didn't consult a doctor or any

**Discussion: cont.**

other expert that's my opinion because I have had two neighbors that died while shoveling snow; one was a young man who was 42 years old and one was a younger woman who was maybe 50 years old. So you can't say that any one age is not appropriate for snow removal but common sense to me says that anyone who is 60 years old or older doesn't need to be out there shoveling snow. If we had all of these services covered in December, 2013 what is the problem now that we have more money in the budget and fewer employees. We have cut our employees to the point where we cannot deliver our services maybe it's time with that extra \$2 million dollars in the budget to look at maybe recalling some of our laid-off employees.

Mayor Coyne stated every statement that you just made is absolutely incorrect. First of all, the recreation center is operating out of the building because of leases that are there now; the pool was closed. You told the people to vote against the recreation and senior levy which would only cost most people in this town about \$115.00, you told them to do that Councilwoman. The fact of the matter is you can't have it both ways, you can't go out there and say that you want to keep fund balances and you want our reserves. The cuts that I made have restored almost all of our reserves in the city and the fact of the matter is, as I told you, those employees are not there anymore. The only change in rubbish service that there is right now is that residents' are putting it in their own cans. I recommended to Council how to address the privatization of that and residents' wouldn't have noticed any difference whatsoever; I didn't win that debate but we still have to live within the confines. As a matter of fact part of the program that you criticized about people taking to the service garage has actually been most successful and I've received more comments and compliments on it then anything else that people can take their bulk down there when they want to do it. So the fact of the matter is to get up here and espouse and talk about all these things, you just can't have it both ways and quite frankly you voted no on everything no matter what it was without any reasoning whatsoever. We provided these figures to you last year and will provide them to you again. It's \$6,000 a pop in the last season we did it and only did it 12 times that's \$72,000. In our appropriation out of the Economic Development Fund for this program we put in \$80,000 and that will be expended according to the policy to help the most people. Finally this program never really had anything to do with age it had to do with the ability to pay. For example, I'm 66 years old and snow plow my driveway but under the program if I was retired with my retirement benefits I would qualify for this program. So would former Mayor Elliott, so would Council President Patten if he was retired, that's ludicrous, because I can afford to pay to do it if I can't physically do it and that's what really this program is all about. It's not to take care of everybody and at one time I think it was 55

**Discussion: cont.**

years old and disabled and Mr. Mencini will tell you and the drivers will tell you that plow the driveways there are six cars in the driveways with all kinds of able-bodied people in the building; that was a nightmare for us to sort out who was qualified and who was not. So, again, based on those years of experience if you are serious about delivering these services to our seniors I would think you would support this. As a matter of fact you individually have already tried to run your own senior center at Redeemer Lutheran Church but the fact of the matter is these statements you make about the budget and about the operations are just not factual.

Mr. Cingle stated to Mrs. Powers you did ask for this information last year, I believe in September of last year, and at that time I did provide you the estimate from a salary-benefit perspective only; about \$3,400.00 a push from the information I received from the service director and ran the calculation off of. Today I sat down and spoke with the foremen of the mechanics area at the service garage and was told per push the repair and maintenance is about \$2,500 and include gas as well you're looking at around \$6,000 a push on an estimated basis. So to set the record correctly you did get that information last year for labor only and I'd also like to add, Mr. Chairman. Just so no one's confused there is not an additional \$2 million dollars in the General Fund, that is not a correct statement.

Mr. Burgio stated I'm really glad that we have some legislation before us because our seniors deserve it and it's a vital service and is necessary. We only have one more meeting this month and soon it will be October and it does snow in October at times; certainly in November. My question is how long does it take to implement this program if we acted now. How many weeks would it take to do this or are we running out of time.

Mayor Coyne responded as we said we've already talked to three of the contractors and they are ready to go. The question is how much are they going to cost and in Law Director Jamison's review of Seven Hills is that the interested contractors in; one can't be at \$350.00 and the other at \$250.00, they have to be all together in charging the people the same price. If we get four we could actually divide them into four districts which would give ample and some of the contractors think they can do all of them. So I think that it's not something that is going to take a long time and then we would have a meeting with the seniors to explain to them and conduct their registration form; so we're used to doing this but right now we would be in partnership with a private delivery system.

Mr. Burgio congratulated everyone who worked on this and am glad that we're doing it and hopefully can tweak it and get it done.

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Troyer stated again, my concern is what it's going to cost these people that need this; we have to limit that and we don't have that information. We're talking about a service and this is changing this from a service to assistance and I hear a lot of times that our salaries and benefits are 80% of our budget and then think to myself what are we? We are in the service industry that's what we do is serve our residents'; that's what we're supposed to do provide them basic services and then maybe a little extra but now we're talking about changing it from a service to assistance. One other thing Mayor I think you said you brought forward this original legislation, I think Mr. Boyle would disagree with you on that.

**Motion** by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Troyer, that item number two was discussed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

3. DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL – BM KAILINI, LLC, DBA  
1 Stop Convenient & Deli, 6286 Engle Road, Brook Park, OH  
4142 **C New 0770474 C1, C2 - Response Date: 9/14/15;**  
**Extension granted from the Department of Liquor Control**  
**on 8/19/15 for 30 days from 9/14/2015 to 10/14/2015**

Mr. Jamison stated that no issues have been brought to his attention.

Mr. Mencini asked Law Director Jamison is this going to be a sit-in or a deli where liquor can be purchased?

Mr. Jamison stated if Council would like to have a hearing to object this license then we would have to request that hearing with evidence for the objection.

Mrs. Powers asked is this an existing business or the convenience store located on the corner of Engle and Holland Roads, or is this a new business.

Mr. Hurst stated that this is an new business coming in the vacant building on the corner of Holland and Engle Roads, the former hair salon.

**Motion** by Mr. D'Amico, supported by Mr. Troyer, that item number three was discussed. Members of Council voted AYE. The motion carried.

4. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PARMA TO ESTABLISH A CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE CITY OF PARMA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Higgins excused himself due to his position in the City of Parma at 8:05 p.m.

Mayor Coyne stated for 20 months we have been trying to put together a cooperative agreement with various cities to consolidate our communication center. We tried originally with the City of Olmsted Falls and Township and Berea to put together something either through the Berea Court system with bookings, jail and communications, that fell through. The City of Berea, Olmsted Falls and Olmsted Township and Brook Park tried to do it through Southwest Community Hospital and being Middleburg Hts. to the mix that didn't happen. At this time the City of Strongsville has enticed some of our neighbors for around a \$300,000 range. Some of their costs to us without any determination in the operating system somewhere between \$700,000 to \$900,000 a year to handle Brook Park's operations, clearly that was not something that we were going to entertain; it appeared to me that we were asking to pay for others discount. About six months ago the Mayor of Parma approached me and talked to me along with the safety director about Brook Park joining into their new communication systems; he had dialogue with our safety director and through several months of conversation and addressing the issues that were important to us. Number one that a modern communication operations for our safety forces in the city and service to our city and to our citizens. Secondly, but equally important, that our employees that would be displaced with our consolidation and partnership. That those employees would be hired and retained by the City of Parma and their appropriate benefits and compensation go along with that; at this point in time that seems to be something that has been accomplished for us. In terms of cost we have to go back to 2013 which is the last time that we had full-time communication operations in the city where we had nine full-time dispatchers and that cost for the dispatch alone was about \$560,000 annually. In 2014 we cut that to \$492,000 but that's only with six full-time and several part-time dispatchers and we had to use on emergency occasions either police officers or firefighters; very rarely but we had to do that at some point this year. Year to date we have spent \$323,000 again with the full-time and part-time blending and projected out to the end of the year would be \$485,000, even with our part-time operations. As you can see that this contract provides for \$364,000 so it's over a \$100,000 in the first year that will save us from the operating side. Members of Council that were here prior to my coming back we received a bid to improve our communications system over there which was about \$700,000 in capital improvements that have to be made to the police department if we kept our own. So the bottom line if we return to the full staffing over there and again we haven't done it because we anticipated that this was going to occur for our city, we'd be looking at \$565,000 to \$170,000 a year as a real number.

**Discussion: cont.**

So if you look at the full staffing of the present operations plus the capital improvements cost will be saving \$700,000 on the capital side and probably somewhere around \$200,000 a year in operations. I know the first thing when we talk about something like this is who is going to know our streets and who is going to do this or who is going to do that. The reality is that all of our dispatchers that will be there will handle our calls in the inaugural season and then everyone will be cross-trained on all the operations of all the cities as they move forward. The most important thing is our safety personnel who will be dispatched know our streets and situations in the community so, to me, this is a first step in dealing with the cost of delivering safety services. It won't be the last one and as you can see all around the country and in Northeast Ohio particularly these are the kinds of partnerships being engaged in because this is the smartest way to deliver services of maintaining a level by getting a handle of sharing the costs of these operations.

Mr. D'Amico stated last time we talked about this with the City of Strongsville and that with the money it obviously was not going to be done. Will you have a seat and all the Mayors' involved in this have a seat at the table together? Will it be a joint effort of overseeing it where it's a pain and then going away and let the business run and let them handle it?

Mr. Brynes responded there are two separate committees; there's an operational committee that the Chiefs' would sit on and there's an advisory committee that the Mayors and Safety Directors would sit on and have them put into the budget annually. The dispatchers would all be City of Parma employees but there was two wards that have oversight function but Parma would employ the employees.

Mr. Mencini stated with the city's dispatchers currently employed will they be shifted over? Will they be brought into this project?

Mr. Brynes responded what we did is advised the city's full time dispatchers to all take the Parma entrance exam, which was given about 60 days ago. The dispatchers have gone through the background checks and they all scored very high and they're all going to be offered positions with the City of Parma. As the Mayor said the beauty of it that their seniority will transfer, their vacation credits and sick leave all transfers with them; so they're not being hired as brand new employees. There are some long tendered employees and have a couple that exceed 20 years with the city and that seniority was protected in the arrangement made with the City of Parma.

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Troyer stated a lot of people are concerned with the 22% increases can you explain what that is okay and how that works?

Mr. Brynes responded according to the contract every July they will open up the rate for fees for the following year. There is a cap put on for capital and for the rate increase but those are negotiated. It's not a guarantee but as a cap it cannot exceed that and that also includes increase capital expenditures.

Mayor Coyne clarified it is a 22% share of any increase, it's not a 22% increase. In other words we are partners so ours will be capped at a 22% share.

Mr. Troyer stated it will be discussed not just done?

Mayor Coyne responded that's correct.

Mr. Troyer continued to Mayor Coyne would you think that ideally, like I do, that we would have had a central dispatch with the Cities of Middleburg Heights and Berea; that would be our ideal circumstance.

Mayor Coyne responded ideally the Berea Court needs a new building and every city is facing jail costs including us when you see the new standards; you're going to flip, every city is going to have booking issues to deal with. The court districts, matter of fact, I talked to two of our state senators (Republican and Democrat) and it seems that the Governor chose to take money away from the cities. The state would fund the new courts with central dispatch and booking and jailing provisions; they would build them and we would operate would be ideal. The second ideal thing would have been in the Southwest General Hospital for obvious reasons and we didn't bear the movement there that we wanted so the bottom line is the City of Parma offered us a great partnership that we think will work for us.

**Motion** by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mrs. Powers, to place on the next Caucus agenda for further discussion.

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

**NAYS:** Salvatore. The motion carried.

Mr. Higgins returned to the Council floor at 8:15 p.m.

5. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9957-2015, THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

**Discussion: cont.**

Mayor Coyne stated this is the appropriation ordinance that provides budget considerations including the itemized capital improvements that are required for the city for the rest of the year.

Mr. Troyer stated with Fund 345 – Home Days Celebration – line item 511 Regular Salaries are up \$1,600, line item 512 – Overtime is up \$5,000 and line item 519 - Fringe Benefits is up \$679 why?

Mr. Cingle responded that was the cost to operate the Home Days this year and I will add that some of those dollars were reimbursed by McGuiness Amusement but that was the cost to administer and operate Home Days this year from the administrative perspective.

Mayor Coyne commented all expenses related to the Midway were paid for by the vendors, McGuiness Amusement, and all the entertainment was paid for by them. The securing of our properties still has to be done by the service department, those are not Midway related that is securing city properties from damages. McGuiness Amusement paid for all of the police, the vendors, rubbish pickup and those kinds of things were paid for by them. The other allocations by the vendors was allocated to pay for rubbish related expenses through the Midway where they conducted their business. The perimeters secured include St. Peter's because we use them for parking and putting a red head there and things like that I don't think it's fair to assess that cost to the people; that's a pretty reasonable expense to secure our properties.

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 428 – Public Properties line item 527 – Miscellaneous Expenses \$9,000 why?

Mr. Cingle responded that is an allocation of gas cost to the Public Properties sub-fund.

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 831 - Auditor and Treasurer Fees line item 523 – Professional Services increase of \$10,000 why?

Mr. Cingle responded those costs are passed onto the city through our property tax collections. So as there are increased fees that have been passed on from the state level the city bears the cost of those increased fees; this has been going on for years and they've been adding administrative fees to all communities and all public entities to administer their documentation and paperwork on their end.

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 243 – Economic Development – line item 325 – Professional Services up \$47,680.00 why?

Mr. Cingle responded mainly due to the professional services that Council authorized for the analysis of the acquisition of the parking lot on Snow Road.

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 272 – Federal Forfeiture Fund – line item 412 – Police Department – line item 525- Contracts \$10,000 increase, what was that for?

Mr. Cingle responded mainly that was a reimbursement to the City of Shaker Heights, the HITA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) was cancelled. We had to repay Shaker Heights for a payment that was received for the use of the vehicle that is used as part of that program.

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 401 – Capital Improvement Fund – line item 341 – Recreation Center line item 551 – Land/Building Improvements \$38,000 what was that for?

Mayor Coyne commented to redo the floors.

Mr. Cingle stated the question related to the Capital Improvements Fund the majority of those is a good portion of the appropriations refer back to the memorandum submitted to Council in June, 2014. There were \$981,000 that were outlined as part of the proposed Capital Improvements budget this year.

Mr. Troyer stated let me go over a few big ones here so the audience can hear and know what these are for. Fund 401 – Capital Improvements Fund - line item 422 – Service Building – there is two of them line item 551 – Land/Building Improvements \$120,000 and line item 552 – Equipment \$245,964; let's start with the \$120,000 – Equipment.

Mayor Coyne commented there are two plow trucks and every year we use about \$30,000 worth of plow blades. The \$120,000 for the plow trucks; \$32,000 is for the plow blades and we had to replace the gate that secures the property so the police can fuel their vehicles 24/7 and secure the property. Because we were having people going in there and doing some damage and dumping things so that was the appropriation under the Service Department.

Mr. Troyer asked what type of plow trucks were these?

**Discussion: cont.**

Mayor Coyne responded snow plow trucks.

Mr. Troyer clarified the pickup trucks with plows?

Mayor Coyne responded no, they're the full size plow trucks and we're going to have to replace about two a year.

Mr. Troyer continued Fund 610 – Finance Department – 523 – Professional Services - \$260,000. It's actually General Government Lands and Buildings Professional Services.

Mayor Coyne responded I submitted to Council these are all the communication issues of the city for every single department. Our communications system date of delivery processing system and we have issues with every single department and communications; so this is an aggregate of various things. I believe I provided this to Council on what those costs were not only for the equipment but the ongoing monthly cost to maintain it and also the various professional licensing things that we have to get to bring our payroll, purchase processing into the digital age. This is an aggregate of all the various departments of the city; timekeeping, everything.

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

6. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO THE SPECIFIED ACCOUNT Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mayor Coyne stated the state auditor has determined that they want a specific ordinance outlining the transfers to be passed by Council.

Mr. Cingle stated the ordinance is per the direction of the auditor of state's office and going through the audit this year they asked and directed the department to create an ordinance for Council's approval that identifies certain transfers; so these are the three transfers that relate to the 2015 budget that would require approval.

Mr. Troyer stated as Council knows and especially Councilman Higgins knows I'm against this transfer of the Sound Insulation money so I'd like to make an amendment to remove the third item reading 517 Sound Insulation Program Fund, 100 General Fund - \$1,000,000.00

**Discussion: cont.**

**Motion** by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mrs. Powers, to remove 517 Sound Insulation Program Fund, 100 General Fund - \$1,000,000.00.

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Mr. D'Amico stated I have a question on the motion to Mr. Cingle. This is something we've already done and the budget's appropriations have been made and we're just doing a separate task so the auditors are satisfied.

Mr. Cingle responded yes, these transfers were approved in the budget document, the appropriation ordinance, that was passed by Council in March, 2015.

Mr. D'Amico continued in other words if we did something of an amendment type we'd be going back to the 2015 budget to revisiting appropriations already done.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Cingle that you mentioned earlier that this money has not yet been transferred, it's still where it originally was in the Sound Insulation Program. So if we were to amend this out yes, we could go back and adjust the budget; we don't have to put the monies back it's still where it belongs. We could still do that as I tried in March.

Mayor Coyne clarified what Mr. Troyer's amendment is going to do. If you remember for this to be successful you eliminate the funding for the Sidewalk Assistance Program, you eliminate the money that was appropriated in the budget for the elimination of cross connections, you eliminate the senior program that you just criticized right now for being inadequate there would be none. So make no mistake about it that's what you're doing. The fact of the matter is Council in their appropriations, the auditor is changing the rules for clarification. Back in the day the budget was passed and Council appropriated the money for operating and capital and we moved on. Now we have to clarify the capital, now we have to clarify the transfers, we're following the rules but make no mistake about it if your amendment is successful the Neighborhood Improvement Program none of those will be funded. The Economic Development transfer none of those will be funded, I just want to clarify because you want the public to know about the budget. Let's make it clear that your amendment eliminates all these assistance programs.

Mr. Troyer stated this amendment would eliminate the money coming from the Sound Insulation Fund we would just have to find another place to pull it from; it would maybe make Council come back here and let look at the budget and find the money elsewhere but it doesn't necessarily have to stop it. If we didn't come back and find the money elsewhere, which I believe we can do, then there might be a problem. The point is not to stop these programs the attempt is to fund them differently and keep this money in the Sound Insulation Program where it belongs; to help people with the train noises and with the airplane noises that I'm getting because of the east-west runway on Cedar Point Road. There's still suffering from the noises from the airport and trains that need to be addressed and that is what this money is for.

Mr. Higgins – Mr. Chairman, call the question.

**Discussion: cont.**

Mr. Patten – Call the roll.  
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**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Troyer, Powers.

**NAYS:** D'Amico, Burgio, Mencini, Salvatore, Higgins. The motion **failed** with a vote of 2-5.

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

7. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTING ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SNOW ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT (PID 100238) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

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

8. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTING ENGINEER TO PREPARE AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YEAR 2016 OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ON THE HOLLAND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mr. Patten stated this ordinance and the next resolution due to not having a meeting for quite some time these are timely and need to be placed on tonight's Council agenda and suspend the rules because the deadline is Friday.

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

Mr. Patten stated this will under L-7 as Ordinance No. 9975-2015.

9. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YEAR 2016 OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

**Discussion: cont.**

**Motion** by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Higgins, to place on the Council agenda immediately following.

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Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Patten you didn't talk to me earlier this evening but I have no problem with suspending the rules.

Mr. Patten stated you were the only one.

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Members of Council voted AYE to the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Patten stated this will appear under L-8 as Resolution No. 18-2015.

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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN, TROYER:**

1. A RESOLUTION URGING ALL RESIDENTS' TO SHOP AND DINE IN THE CITY OF BROOK PARK DURING 'SHOP AND DINE IN BROOK PARK WEEK', DECEMBER 7, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 13, 2015 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Councilman Mencini

**Motion** by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Burgio, to place on the next Council agenda.

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Mr. Troyer asked Mr. Mencini if he would like co-sponsors?

Mr. Mencini stated when I did the big fundraiser for Brook Park Memorial local merchants were good about helping out as they always are; on West 130<sup>th</sup> to Donte's on the west end as well as police and fire and so many people helped out. In my Planning Commission there are a lot of people and businesses coming to Brook Park. Our merchants are great and I think that is the week that we should get out and support them. Mr. Mencini asked for co-sponsors to the legislation.

Mrs. Powers stated I like the idea very much but I would also like to see because of the Smith Road construction project taking so long, almost a year, all the merchants along Smith Road and Snow Roads have suffered. So I would just like to say not only shop all the merchants in Brook Park but pay particular attention to the merchants on Snow and Smith Roads from now until the end of the year; because they have a lot to make up due to the project taking such a long time.

**Legislative Committee – Chairman, Troyer: cont.**

Mr. Mencini stated I'll go along with that but with this let's hit everybody and absolutely on Smith Road. A lot of those people were a big help with the fundraiser and are good active people in this community. Shopping in Brook Park as a whole is always great on this week here let's definitely hit it in Brook Park and help each other.

Mr. Salvatore commented in reading the resolution special attention has been given to Brookgate Shopping in the second Whereas.

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Members of Council voted AYE to the motion. The motion carried.

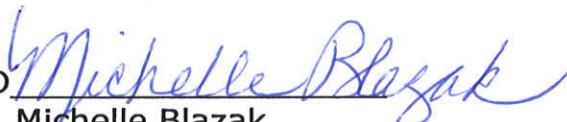
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Mr. Burgio gave an update on the Resolution that I introduced back in February, 2015 and Council co-sponsored 'Dick Goddard Animal Cruelty Law' it did pass the House of Representatives in June and is presently in the Agricultural Committee in the Senate; still has a way to go and thank you for co-sponsoring.

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There being no further business to come before this meeting Council President Patten declared this meeting adjourned.

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.