

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO  
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Astorino at 9:35 p.m., who read the meeting notice. The clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

**SCOTT, BURGIO, SALVATORE, TROYER, POWERS, McCORMICK, MENCINI**

Also in attendance were Mayor Coyne, Law Director Horvath and Finance Director Cingle, Building Commissioner Hurst and Service Director Cayet.

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**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON THE ORDINANCES AND/OR  
RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA ONLY:**

Jeff Duke

15914 Remora Blvd.

Mr. Duke stated a couple of items noticed regarding the Appropriations, especially the operation budget from the previous Council meeting. There were a lot of questions from Council regarding some of the funds that were increased and were well answered by the Mayor, Finance Director and staff. A couple of funds that were omitted, or if they were discussed, I didn't see that and would like to pose that to Council President and Council for maybe some explanations. The Council fund had a \$17,000 or 10% increase from 2015 to 2016 appropriations yet no questions were brought forward regarding that 10% increase. In the past there was a lot of discussion, especially from certain Council persons, regarding shared sacrifice and possibly reductions in salary; yet a 10% increase in the Council budget weren't there. I think that's kind of shared sacrifice and 10% increase do not go hand in hand so there's maybe some explanations to the residents' regarding that recommendation for increase. Also, the Clerk of Council budget was a 12% increase and same question would apply there; there were no questions from Council persons to the Administration regarding the increase in budget there and yet that still seems to be in conflict with the lot of past statements on shared sacrifice. So two Council funds had a 10% recommended increase and 12% recommended increase and I'd like to maybe encourage some discussion to why that was. To point a few things out, as a reminder to Council, when you compare 2014 to 2016 budgets especially for a couple of key items; one being recreation. Recreation went through a \$450,000 (roundabout number) from 2014 to 2016; approximately a 37% decrease. Yet I didn't hear any recommendations from Council on maybe increasing that number back up to support programs, such as senior programs and things like that. So maybe some more concrete recommendations can come from Council to the Mayor on increasing those funds. Glad to see our administration putting together funds, I believe, it was said of a \$400,000 in Economic Development for senior

**Remarks from the audience on the Ordinances and/or Resolutions on the agenda only: cont.**

snowplowing, the home maintenance assistance program and miscellaneous activity such as sidewalk repair. If there are considerable concerns from Council regarding those funds should be increased recommend it please don't just make comments after the operating budget that there is not enough there. I did not hear any comments or recommendations during the operations discussion from my Council person to make those recommendations; just a lot of comments afterwards and that is a little concerning to me as a resident of this city. I do thank the Mayor and Administration for a good presentation, think there was a lot of great questions from Council regarding some explanations that do help residents' understand, however, the questions were not consistent across the board. I would encourage Council to maybe make some explanations to the residents as to why their two major funds went through a 10% and 12% increase as well.

**OTHER COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND VERBAL APPROVAL:  
INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION:**

1. AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, STATE OF OHIO, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Introduced by Mayor Coyne

Mr. Astorino assigned the above legislation to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Salvatore – Mr. Chairman, Point of Order, this is a Council agenda and this would be its First Reading.

Mr. Astorino – I will point out that Council Rule No. 12 found on page ten that says (a) – Introduction - Ordinances and Resolutions shall be introduced in Council only in printed form with the name of the committee endorsing the same endorsed thereon or by the Mayor except if legislation is introduced by a Councilman on the floor of Council then it shall carry his name. All ordinances and resolutions shall be read by title only on the day introduced and shall be referred to committee by the presiding officer. Mr. Astorino continued that is what is happening here this is being introduced and I'm placing it in committee as per the rule.

Mr. Salvatore – this does have the person who introduced it name on it – at the top Introduced by Mayor Coyne.

Mr. Astorino – It does have Introduced by Mayor Coyne which is contained in the rule but it's an ordinance that is being introduced and every other ordinance that has been introduced this year once introduced I assign it to a to a committee;

**Other communications, petitions and verbal approval: Introduction of new legislation cont.**

that's what the rule says it shall be referred to committee by the presiding officer, that's what I've done.

Mayor Coyne – Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Salvatore – It is a Council meeting, Mr. Chairman, it's not a Caucus. I understand what you're saying if it was at a Caucus you would be absolutely right but this is a Council meeting. A Special Council meeting to discuss this issue, therefore in my opinion and I may be wrong, but I think this is its First Reading.

Mayor Coyne – Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Astorino – Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Coyne – I called this Special meeting of Council which I have authority to do and the only purpose of that meeting was to have the First Reading of this ordinance; that's what the notification says and that's all we're going to do is have a First Reading so I don't know why it has to go back to the Finance Committee. The fact of the matter is we've had partial hearings on these things and will have some more so it serves the purpose of the calendar for First Reading and that was the notice of the special meeting; this is a Council meeting.

Mr. Astorino – I've heard your remarks and not swayed by your opinion or your decision so it has now been introduced, it's been placed in committee and there is not other business to come before this Council; so there will be a motion to adjourn.

Mrs. Powers – Motion to adjourn...

Mayor Coyne – Mr. Chairman, there is.

Mr. Astorino – There is what, Mayor.

Mayor Coyne – There is more business to come before this meeting the purpose of this meeting was for First Reading. The purpose of this meeting was for the First Reading and you made your ruling that I happen to disagree with but also to put a schedule forward to schedule the rulings and this is what I talked about in the Caucus meeting prior to this meeting. So I would ask since everyone here is this evening that we can sit and work on a schedule so that we can go through the reading process so we meet our deadline by the end of the month.

Mr. Astorino – I'm restricted by the Sunshine Laws, as you know...

Mayor Coyne – No, you're not...

**Other communications, petitions and verbal approval: Introduction of new legislation cont.**

Mr. Astorino – To follow what the posting of the notice is...

Mayor Coyne – Well, if you then follow it it's the First Reading...

Mr. Astorino – No, the posting of the notice is letter J – Other Communications, Petitions and Verbal Approval. Introduction of New Legislation and our Council Rules...

Mayor Coyne – that's not the purpose of the meeting...

Mr. Astorino – well, that's the posting that was...

Mayor Coyne – The notice of that meeting was for First Reading...

Mr. Astorino – Okay, I'm going to exercise the power of the Chair because we've completed the requirement of the special notice that was posted, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

Mayor Coyne – Then can we before you do that...No, first of all you didn't take a vote and you don't follow your own rules. We have to set a schedule for consideration of this budget; will you at least do that....

Mr. Astorino – Clerk would you call the roll on adjournment...

Clerk stated I don't have a second on the motion by Mrs. Powers.

Mayor Coyne – You have to get someone to make the motion...

Mrs. Powers – I did it before you spoke the second time...

Mr. Astorino – Is there support for the motion.

Mrs. McCormick – Support.

Mr. Astorino asked the clerk to call the roll on adjournment.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Powers, McCormick, Troyer

**NAYS:** Mencini, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore The motion failed 4-3.

Mr. Astorino – The motion for adjournment failed there is nothing else on the agenda and this is a special meeting so we're restricted to the agenda.

Mayor Coyne – Part of the introduction of that ordinance, if I may Mr. Chairman, is to schedule the appropriate hearings of the legislation for readings. That's

**Other communications, petitions and verbal approval: Introduction of new legislation cont.**

what I talked about in the Caucus meeting so I disagree with your original ruling. Could you at least poll the Council to see what when to meet again to deal with capital and any schedule they wish to deal with the three readings; seems like you erred, I believe, this evening by not giving its First Reading.

Mr. Astorino – You may believe that I erred but I'm not sure how you can have a First Reading when we haven't had a full description; we just had a partial description tonight of operations and then you've told us that we're going to have additional information provided to us on capital.

Mayor Coyne – It's quite simple...

Mr. Astorino – Is this how this works Mayor because I can interrupt just as much as you can.

Mayor Coyne – Go ahead Mr. Chairman it's your meeting...

Mr. Astorino – Yes it is my meeting and there is a proper etiquette and I'm sure you're aware of that proper etiquette you just choose to ignore that proper etiquette. So there was no motion to adjourn we've turned that down but there's nothing else on the agenda and the sunshine laws restrict us to this special meeting of Council notice and the special meeting of Council notice is under letter J. There is nothing under the letter for First Reading. Our Council rules say when an ordinance is introduced or a resolution is introduced that on the day it is introduced I will refer it to committee. I have followed what the notice is and I have followed what our rules are.

Mayor Coyne – You chose...Are you done now can I speak now...

Mr. Astorino – No, Councilwoman Powers.

Mrs. Powers – It is my understanding that when something is introduced it goes to Caucus and Council has the opportunity to study it, talk about it and then put it on First Reading but it has to come to Caucus for discussion first; that's my understanding.

Mr. Salvatore – Mr. Chairman..

Mr. Astorino – Mr. Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore – Just for a point of clarification and for the lack of a better word to get this on the table for everybody to understand it; we're operating under two sets of rules. Tonight, we had a Caucus meeting and had something under Discussion that we moved to a Council agenda that was not put into a

**Other communications, petitions and verbal approval: Introduction of new legislation cont.**

committee, that was item number two. We had a Resolution introduced from a Council floor that came to the floor to the Council meeting without a Caucus, without discussion, without the legislation in front of us but moved forward; there was no assignment to a committee. Therefore, I will repeat one more time and I think I'm right on this and be more than glad to do the homework and do the research we have a special Council tonight, it's not a Caucus, it was a Special Council meeting called by the Mayor which he has the authority to do so as the Chair does and as three sitting Members of Council also have that same opportunity. You put it on the agenda it's my understanding by virtue of understanding the process that this was put on for First Reading and not for passage. I don't believe for one minute that the Mayor expected anybody to vote on this because I certainly wouldn't have suspended and voted on in it tonight. I certainly do believe that the budget process is entitled to have three readings and also know we're under a time constraint and we're going to have another month if we go two more readings we've got 30 more days to discuss this. So to have First Reading tonight I think was the right thing to do and think it was in proper form and think the motion to allow this to have First Reading and not be placed into a committee and maybe sit there, maybe not, is something that we should not be doing. This is a budget and we should be moving forward and like I said we have a whole month left to get two more readings in if needed. Thank you Mr. Chairman for allowing me to speak.

Mr. Troyer – Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Astorino – Councilman Troyer.

Mr. Troyer – Thank you I've only had two years but every year when I've gone to the budget it was presented to us then it went to committee then the Caucus. It's not Council's fault that March 8<sup>th</sup> we just got through the budget for the first time there is not going to be a problem we can get this done with suspension of the rules or special meetings, whatever we can get this done but I don't read this as being First Reading and think it should go into committee and think we should take our time with it and do the right thing. We can get this done and there is no doubt that we can get this done but we just have to have a special meeting if needed or suspend the rules which I don't like doing, everybody knows...

**Motion** by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mrs. Powers, to adjourn.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Troyer, Powers, McCormick, Mencini

**NAYS:** Scott, Burgio, Salvatore. The motion carried 4-3.

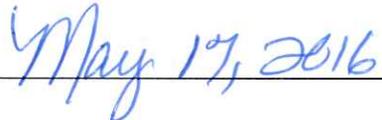
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There being no further business to come before this meeting Council President Astorino declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

  
Michelle Blazak  
Clerk of Council

APPROVED

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

