

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO  
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Astorino at 7:00 p.m., the clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

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

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

-----

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:**

1. REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 24, 2017.

**Motion** by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Burgio, Mencini, McDonnell, Powers, Troyer, Salvatore, Scott

**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

-----

**DISCUSSION:**

-----

**FINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIRWOMAN, MCDONNELL:**

1. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE ELECTORATE OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV SECTION 4.01; OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilmembers D'Amico, Patten, Higgins, Burgio and Salvatore. Placed in Committee 5/5/15; Caucus 5/19/15; Back to Committee 5/19/15; Caucus 2/28/17; Back to Committee 2/28/17.

Mrs. McDonnell stated this legislation was placed in committee in May, 2015 and is proposing this up for discussion.

Mr. Salvatore stated as one of the co-sponsors of this legislation, at that time Council was looking for a way to downsize Council and believes Council should continue to find a way to downsize; there are other options that have been discussed and this is a starting point. Since Council didn't make the deadline last year for this to appear on the ballot Mr. Salvatore recommended having this Read in Committee and start fresh with new ideas and thoughts on how to downsize and placed on the ballot for next year for the next election term.

Mr. Mencini concurred and would like to see what the public thinks on this matter; this will give time to get feedback from the public on their thoughts.

Mrs. Powers stated under Section 2, it reads there would be six Members of Council, five elected at large and one of whom would be President of Council. Mrs. Powers would like that changed to four Councilmembers, one for each ward, and one Council President being the fifth member and the tie-breaking voter. This would eliminate some members

**Finance Committee – Chairwoman, McDonnell (cont.):**

and give the Ward Councilmembers more access to their constituents, than having to run at large.

Mr. Scott stated he served on two Charter Review Commissions and both times the commission did recommend that Council look into a reduction of members with both Charter Review Commissions having different numbers for the reduction of Council. Mr. Scott believes this should be done with the reduction of the population; the present Council was set up for 33,000 to 36,000 residents. This is something that should be looked at and there is a Charter Review Commission coming up. Mr. Scott recommended putting back in committee.

Mr. Salvatore stated I've always felt that we need to downsize starting with City Council but I do not want to take away the right of the residents to have the opportunity to vote for the majority members. The way this is structured every resident gets to vote for three at-large and a ward Councilmember, which is four and a majority. Whatever makeup Council ends up with I would still like to keep that the residents elect the majority Members of Council. Mr. Salvatore thinks the (Council) President should be a voting member rather than just a parliamentarian, if that adjustment is made that would eliminate one at-large position and downsize Council by one. Mr. Salvatore would like to see it downsized to two which may create some redistricting by possibly having three wards instead of four. Mr. Salvatore would like to see some dialogue and balance that leaves the control of the voting members in the hands of the residents.

Mr. Troyer commented he has always been opposed to all the at-large positions and Mr. Salvatore's idea would create six at-large members. If Council is to be cut, then one ward and one at-large member should be cut.

**Motion** by Mr. Scott supported by Mr. Mencini, to place back in Committee.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Scott, Mencini, McDonnell, Powers, Salvatore, Burgio

**NAYS:** Troyer. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

2. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMISSIONER TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS FOR AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS ('RFP') FOR THE EXECUTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE JOB AND SALARY STUDY AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SEEK SUCH PROPOSALS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by the Finance Committee.

Mrs. McDonnell stated this legislation may not have followed proper protocol for introduction, being introduced by a committee.

Mr. Troyer asked the law director to speak on this issue.

Mrs. Horvath stated the substance of this particular ordinance is not the issue, the main issue is who introduced it. Even more concerning is that the original piece of legislation no longer exists and is not in the Council office. Mrs. Horvath continued when seeing

**Finance Committee - Chairwoman, McDonnell: cont.**

this on the agenda I did a duplicate piece leaving the introduction line blank and hopes that Council consider retiring this non-existing legislation and continue with the duplicate piece, if Council so wishes.

**Motion** by Mr. Troyer supported by Mr. Scott, that this was read in Committee.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Troyer, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore, Powers, McDonnell, Mencini

**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

3. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Coyne.

Mr. Astorino stated that in Section 2 there is no fund mentioned where the monies would be coming from.

Mr. Cingle stated the monies would come from Fund 100 - General Fund.

**Motion** by Mr. Mencini supported by Mr. Scott, to amend Section 2 after the word from and insert General Fund 100.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Mencini, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore, Troyer, Powers, McDonnell

**NAYS:** None. The amendment carried.

Mr. Salvatore asked the Mayor if this is time sensitive?

Mr. Astorino stated it must be passed by the end of the year and could be passed at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Troyer asked the Finance Director if this will cost about the same as last year.

Mr. Cingle replied he will look that up but it appears to be in line with last year's cost.

**Motion** by Mr. Mencini supported by Mr. Troyer, to place on the next Council agenda.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Mencini, Troyer, Powers, McDonnell, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore

**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

-----

There being no further business to come before this meeting a **motion** by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Burgio to adjourn.

**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Mencini, Burgio, Scott, Salvatore, Troyer, Powers, McDonnell

**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

Council President Astorino declared the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Michelle Blazak  
Clerk of Council

APPROVED



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