

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Vecchio at 6:00 p.m., the clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

SCOTT, BURGIO, SALVATORE, STEMM, ORCUTT, POINDEXTER, MENCINI

Also in attendance were Mayor Gammella, Law Director Horvath, Finance Director Cingle, Mayor's Administrative Assistant D'Amico and Building Commissioner Hurst.

Appointments and Confirmations – Mayor Gammella

Service Director - Ron Jordan

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to place on the January 16th Caucus Prior to because Council received the resumes yesterday and haven't had a chance to look at them.

Mr. Gammella stated that would seriously hinder the services of this city.

Mr. Scott stated I understand that but Council just received the resumes yesterday.

Mr. Gammella asked Mr. Scott what he suggested if the streets need to be salted and plowed?

Mr. Scott responded there is a general foreman and also not to be argumentative you are the head of all departments and can make that call if needed.

Mr. Gammella commented I would hope that Council wouldn't do that. I need a service director to plow and salt the streets.

Mr. Scott responded I understand that, if Mr. Jordan stood up right now I wouldn't know who he is and need to look at the resumes and understand.

Mr. Gammella commented you had time to contact me and ask questions you may have, Councilman. Again, you are one Councilman and would hope that the rest of Council would work with this administration and allow the confirmation of Mr. Jordan.

Appointments and confirmations - Mayor Gammella: cont.

Mr. Scott stated not to be argumentative, I'm not like that, but I believe on December 13th I asked for resumes on Mr. Jordan and Mr. Adams and didn't receive them. I have a text message sent out asking for the resumes on December 13th.

Mr. Gammella asked who the text message was sent to because he never received the text message.

Mr. Scott stated to you and can pull it up on my phone.

Mr. Gammella stated I never received a text message, that's all I will say about it. Council, again, I need the streets plowed and salted. Mr. Jordan for Service Director and would appreciate a motion to that affect, it's up to this Council.

Mr. Salvatore stated it appears if we don't put the resumes to another agenda for further discussion the votes may not be here to confirm.

Mr. Poindexter commented I received the email yesterday and did read it and think his qualifications are more than adequate for the position. I wouldn't want to see city business delayed and see this move forward and fill the position today.

Mr. Mencini stated I can look at this two ways but will look at it this way. Coming from the service garage, in December Mr. Cayet was still down there but there also several supervisors and foremen's just like in the safety department. I would like to review the resumes a little bit more and am not picking sides, hopefully that is in the past. Maybe it's time that we look into things a little bit more such applications and so forth. We had issues in January and December of last year and don't want to take the same trail. So I am backing Mr. Scott and don't think anything is getting held up.

Mr. Gammella stated I couldn't disagree with you more, I think you are impeding the services to the residents of this community, if that's what you want.

Mr. Mencini asked for clarification on impeding of the residents.

Mr. Gammella responded a service director is needed to run the department, especially in this weather. For example, today I walked in and the first thing had to do as Mayor is purchase rock salt, there is no salt except for another day or two. This is what I'm dealing with and if Council is good with that it's up to you.

Mr. Mencini commented on this matter I can't concur with you. I agree with part of what you said and you maybe you should have been left with salt, but December has been snowy. Also, the service department besides rubbish could

Appointments and confirmations - Mayor Gammella: cont.

probably run itself in some certain ways; as well as the safety department running itself. The issue you may have is over at the Recreation Center because I was looking forward in December to see some people over there and all the progress and construction going on. Again, this is not any kind of hold-up or shot at anything, I'm here to work together to move this city ahead and agree 100%.

Mr. Gammella clarified by saying let me get this straight, you think I should run this city without a service director for the next few weeks. You're going to put the public safety and welfare by not having a service director.

Mr. Mencini commented I think I've seen it done before, Mayor, if you want the truth.

Mr. Gammella stated again, Council it's up to you, I'm telling you I need a service director. In the history of this city a Mayor has never tried to run this city in the middle of winter and a freeze like current without a service director. In my opinion that's total insanity and if that's what Council wants when I start getting the phone calls I will have to tell them Council will not give me a service director to plow and salt the streets.

Mr. Salvatore commented, Mayor, you were a Councilman before and do know that there was a period when a director was not confirmed. I will not bring up the past and mention names but everything went smoothly until Council felt comfortable with the appointment and the appointment was made. This is not going to interfere with any services whatsoever, things are going to get done. This Council is going to be proactive and everyone is eager to work with you, Mayor, but this is a two-way street and would behoove you to work with Council as well.

Mayor Gammella commented this is my second day on the job, you say you want to work with me but won't give me a service director. This is the same absurd insanity that I thought would stop but apparently getting right back to it. When I get the calls I'll tell them what you said that they can wait.

Mr. Salvatore stated Mr. Mayor, I didn't say that they can wait, don't put words in my mouth.

Mr. Gammella interjected what are you saying Mr. Salvatore? You're saying you won't give me a service director to get the streets plowed and have direction down there. I come into this office and don't have any salt, I have an emergency and need to have a special Board of Control meeting this evening to get salt. So what are you saying, that in this weather I don't have a service director and you're going to work with me and the people of this community but this community

Appointments and confirmations - Mayor Gammella: cont.

doesn't have a service director, this is absolutely appalling. Again, Council it's your call.

Mr. Salvatore commented I never received a resume, I have one for Mark Elliott.

Mr. Gammella stated resumes were placed in boxes when I received them. Council, I'm going to ask one more time I need a service director to run this city. If you want to start off this way that's up to you but it's not going to be pleasant, especially is there is death or serious injury.

Mr. Poindexter stated the only paper resume received, the other candidates were sent by email yesterday.

Mr. Gammella commented Mr. Elliott's arrived last, Mr. Jordan and Mr. Scott were there before that.

The clerk called the roll on the motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to place Mr. Jordan's resume for service director on the January 16, 2018 Caucus Prior to the Council meeting.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Scott, Salvatore, Burgio, Stemm, Orcutt, Mencini

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

Mr. Gammella thanked Mr. Poindexter for showing consideration to the people of this community, I appreciate it.

Safety Director - Scott Adams

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to place on the January 16, 2018 Caucus Prior to the Council meeting for further discussions, due to the same reason of just receiving the resume and the email communication only consisted of two pages, the first and second page were missing. So that is an incomplete resume and I would like to make this clear. We just had two years of people that were criminally charged and have one that is under investigation, we cannot just jump into stuff like in the past, that's my personal feeling. I want to come out of this with the city being clean and don't want any issues with anybody being able to come back and say that, as former Councilman Troyer would say, Council fast-tracked everything. I would like to take a look and there's questions I would like to ask Mr. Jordan and Mr. Adams, I have not seen a complete resume we only have pages three and four.

Mr. Gammella commented hard copies were provided to you for Mr. Adams, Mr. Elliott and Mr. Jordan some time ago.

Appointments and confirmations - Mayor Gammella: cont.

Mr. Vecchio clarified that the only hard copy was for Mr. Elliott, the others were sent by email and only pages three and four of Mr. Adams resume.

Mr. Gammella stated hard copies were received in the Council office and both Mr. Jordan and Mr. Adams are here for any questions. If you think we can run without a safety director, again, I've never seen anything like this in all my years since 1986.

Mr. Poindexter commented that he only received a partial resume and would like to review it a little bit more since only pages three and four were received and it is an incomplete resume.

The clerk called the roll on the motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to move the appointment of Scott Adams to the January 16th Caucus Prior to the Council meeting.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Scott, Orcutt, Stemm, Poindexter, Mencini, Burgio, Salvatore
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Recreation Director - Mark Elliott

Mr. Salvatore stated I have had time to review Mr. Elliott's resume and know him personally and know what he is capable of doing.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to confirm Mark Elliott as Recreation Director.

Mr. Scott concurred with Mr. Salvatore about knowing Mr. Elliott and like I said it's nothing personal against Mr. Jordan and Mr. Adams, I don't know anything about them.

Mr. Burgio commented I think Mr. Elliott will do a great job as Recreation Director because he has much experience doing that and will support.

Mr. Mencini concurred and stated with most of the appointments I'm sure I will be in support once more information is received. Obviously, with my life-long career with the city I know all of them and have seen Mr. Elliott be in action whether it be coaching, director or Mayor and wholeheartedly support this appointment.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Mencini, Poindexter, Orcutt, Stemm, Burgio, Scott
NAYS: None. The motion carried for the confirmation of Mark Elliott as Recreation Director.

Mr. Vecchio welcomed Mr. Elliott back to the City of Brook Park.

Appointments and Confirmations – Mayor Gammella

Planning Commission - Chris Sinclair

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Scott, to approve Mr. Sinclair to the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Scott, Burgio, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter, Mencini
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Robin Way - Recreation Commission

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Burgio, to approve Robin Way to the Recreation Commission.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Burgio, Scott, Salvatore, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio welcomed both Chris Sinclair to the Planning Commission and Robin Way to the Recreation Commission.

Terry Gardner - Civil Service Commission

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Scott, to approve Terry Gardner to the Civil Service Commission.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio welcomed Mr. Gardner to the Civil Service Commission.

2. Appointment of Clerk of Council and any such officers as Council may deem necessary.

Motion by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Scott, to extend the Council Clerk's pay until the end of January for Council to review resumes received.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Orcutt, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore, Stemm, Poindexter, Mencini
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

3. Election of President of Council Pro-Tem.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Scott, to nominate Richard Salvatore.

No nominations came forwarded.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Scott, Burgio, Salvatore, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio congratulated Mr. Salvatore on his confirmation of Council President Pro-Tem.

Mr. Salvatore thanked Members of Council for their vote of confidence.

4. 2018 Caucus and Council Meeting Dates

Mr. Vecchio stated the meeting dates are currently set through the end of February.

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Mencini, to accept the meeting dates approved in December, 2017.

Mr. Salvatore stated Council already approved the dates.

Mr. Vecchio responded prior Council.

Mr. Poindexter stated does Council need the next two Caucus on the schedule?

Mr. Vecchio responded depending on what is on the agenda would be the answer, the rules this Council makes are the rules that will be followed and the meetings will be run according to how Council sets the rules.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Scott, Mencini, Poindexter, Orcutt, Stemm, Salvatore, Burgio
NAYS: None. The motion carried to approve the two-month meeting schedule.

5. Acceptance of Rules of Council 2018-2019 (**see copy of proposed revisions**)

Mr. Vecchio stated this is open for discussion there are some items that may be contentious but as I just stated to Councilman Poindexter. This is Council Rules to be voted in and I will run the meetings accordingly.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Scott, to accept the 2016-2017 Council Rules as written by changing the dates to read 2018-2019; amendments can be made as Council goes forward.

Mr. Mencini concurred with Councilman Salvatore and stated this is something the new Council of a Whole can look over. My colleague Councilman Poindexter asked if the meetings are needed and the answer is yes, there is going to be a lot coming in January and February and believe any meeting we can possibly have will solve a lot of wide-ranging problems we may have or want to bring forward. As the year goes forward hopefully after February we can break down to the two meetings.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Scott, Burgio, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter, Mencini
NAYS: None. The motion carried to change the date for the Rules of Council.

6. Committee Assignments.

Mr. Vecchio gave the Committee assignments that are attached to these minutes.

7. Special Committee Assignments.

Southwest General Health Center Trustee

Motion by Mr. Burgio, supported by Mr. Scott, to nominate Councilman Salvatore to serve as trustee.

No further nominations came forward.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Burgio, Scott, Salvatore, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter, Mencini
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Berea Board of Education Representative

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Scott, to nominate Rachel McDonnell as representative.

No other nominations came forward.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Scott, Burgio, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter, Mencini
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio stated if Council will allow, I would like to have a backup representative to the Berea Board of Education, and would like to appoint Brian Poindexter.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to appoint Brian Poindexter as backup representative to the Berea Board of Education.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Orcutt, Poindexter, Stemm, Salvatore, Burgio, Scott
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio welcomed Ms. McDonnell, Mr. Poindexter and Mr. Salvatore to serve on the special committees of Council.

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, Stemm, Orcutt, Poindexter
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED Michelle Blazak
Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED January 16, 2018

THESE MEETING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS, NOT TRANSCRIBED IN THEIR ENTIRETY, ALTHOUGH ACCURATE.

