

**ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED
AT THE CAUCUS PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018**

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

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

Also in attendance were Building Commissioner Hurst, Administrative Assistant D'Amico, Service Director Garner, Law Director Horvath, Engineer Piatak, Finance Director Cingle, Recreation Director Elliott and Assistant Finance Director Healy.

DISCUSSION:

1. 2018 BUDGET

Mr. Mencini asked to have this discussion put off either to a special meeting to next week, since the Mayor is not in intended and there were some line-items he wanted to review with the Mayor.

Mr. Scott asked for an explanation from Engineer Piatak on the what entails with a street resurfacing project? What is done, how it's done and how long does the street last after being resurfaced?

Mr. Piatak responded a resurfacing project consists of, most of the streets in Brook Park have a concrete base and at some point in time that is overlay with a layer or two of asphalt. On a resurfacing project normally what is done is to mill-off the top surface to get down to the concrete base. Make base and curb repairs, fix catch-basins that are found to be in disrepair, do some joint repairs, partial depth, full depth repairs. When that work is completed the road put two layers are put in as an intermediate and surface course, to seal the edges.

Mr. Scott continued how long does a resurfacing project take when doing a street and how long does it typically last when complete?

Mr. Piatak responded it's hard to say typically, the length and longevity depends on a number of different things. The condition of the concrete base that was overlay, obviously, the better the base the better the longevity. In time, there will be reflective cracking through the asphalt layers and if a maintenance type project is kept up with by doing some crack-filling you will get a longer life out of that pavement. Typically, I'd like to say we would get 10 to 15 years out of an overlay and think we can see more than that. Resurfacing is not intended to be a permanent type repair, it's more of a maintenance type application project.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Vecchio asked what criteria is used to determine resurfacing of a street; is there set criteria?

Mr. Piatak responded with the Street Rating Database is a guide, there are a number of criteria that is used to set numbers to get a street ranked. Obviously, I can't look through the pavement to see what the sub-base looks like, observations can be made with what can be seen from the top. But, if there is a street that is going to be reconsidered for resurfacing, typically, I go out and do a more extensive type of evaluation to give my opinion if the street is a candidate for resurfacing or not. Some of the street on the database that are up near the top I would be reluctant to say they can be overlay. Because you will only get three or four years and don't think that is a wise expenditure for the city to overlay before they get to that point of the street being too far gone.

Mr. Salvatore stated the street rating database is originally established from the worst to the best streets, correct. The streets at the top of the list are in need of repair more so then the streets at the bottom.

Mr. Piatak responded that would be fair to say, the ones near the top have a lower rating meaning it's in a greater state of disrepair.

Mr. Salvatore stated over the years, it seems that we have stayed in proportion of the list which was the whole idea of establishing the list; to try and repair the ones that were in dire need of repair and follow some type of criteria. So if residents call asking where their street is located on the list Council could explain exactly what the administration and Council are working towards. If we're going to start drawing streets from the middle or the back we no longer are following that guideline, I'm just curious what has changed?

Mr. Piatak respectfully disagreed with what Councilman Salvatore is saying that that basically the top streets on the list have been picked.

Mr. Salvatore interjected that's not what I'm saying, what I said is we try to stay at the top of the list.

Mr. Piatak continued we're still holding true to what has been done in the past, I guess I would have to take the past years and see where the streets were on the list. If you look at the streets, what's the difference between a #24 or #25, not a lot. There are also quite a few streets that are #25 and below, so again, I wouldn't recommend doing an overlay on certain streets and do you want to do three, four or one street. I guess we were looking to do some asphalt work the past few years and have done considerable amount of remove and replace which, in my opinion, is a more permanent fix. Those are obviously more expensive

Discussion: cont.

projects and you don't get to spread the work around like on a resurfacing project.

Mr. Salvatore understood the difference between a #24 and #25 and understand there isn't much difference between the two. Obviously, you rated it that way and to get into something that close would involve the actual cost of doing the street provided it falls in the budgeted amount for street repair.

Mr. Orcutt stated to Engineer Piatak, with the sheet provided this evening, have there been some changes with some of the roads that are going to be repaired.

Mr. Piatak responded it is my understanding that there was a sheet that came over previously with two alternates; the sheet provided tonight was the latest alternate.

Mr. Poindexter stated to Engineer Piatak, to help me understand this database clearer, what is the maximum rating that a street can have?

Mr. Piatak responded I think it's 36 as the highest; there are four categories with nine's in each category.

Mr. Burgio stated to follow-up on Mr. Orcutt's question, it looks like a couple of these streets were removed from the draft, Stonecrest and two sections of that. Is there a reason why they were removed?

Mr. Piatak responded there were some alternates asked of me to put together and this was the latest one sent over.

Mr. Burgio stated to Finance Director Cingle wasn't there talk of a little over \$1.2 million dollars originally?

Mr. Cingle responded that's true, \$1.2 million dollars is actually budgeted but remember that \$230,000. Is for design work and engineering services for next year roads program; i.e. West 150th Street, Holland Road and the city's portion of the Sheldon Road project with Middleburg Heights.

Mr. Burgio expressed disappointment of not doing more streets and was hoping to match last year but will make the best of what we have.

Mr. Poindexter stated to Engineer Piatak is the city looking towards any grants for this year? I know that is a big revenue dip in this year's budget proposed, is the lack of grants. Are there any grants the city is going after this year and elaborate if there are any?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Piatak responded typically local roads the city's residential streets don't qualify for any type of grant funding program. You can look into some Community Block grants and typically those come out mid-to-late summer that can score well in certain income regions in that program. The Public Works Program which I intend to submitting on a project in that program; like what was done with Holland Road. The local roads typically don't qualify for any type of grant program but the three projects i.e. Smith Road Resurfacing, Holland Road Reconstruction and Sheldon Road Resurfacing; those are all projects that have some level of grant and loan components to them. While those won't be constructed this year those streets are in the program for next year.

Mr. Poindexter continued to Engineer Piatak, does your office have all the necessary tools to obtain as many grants as possible? Because it seems like the budget is tight and the proposed roads program is really light. I'd like to make sure that the city is actively pursuing all the grants as possible and get as much done as possible with the least amount out of the budget as possible.

Mr. Piatak guesses yes, I feel our office is equipped to go after any type of grant and if there is something out there that you're aware of that we need to pursue, I'd be happy to speak to you and go after that. In the past it's been a collaborative effort between my office and typically economic development to seek grant funds and I would intend that would be the process moving forward. I feel that we are equipped as anybody to go after grant money and are always looking for opportunities for the city to secure grants.

Mr. Mencini stated on the ratings sheet, there are four streets in my ward that are definitely I need, in the #24, #25, #23 and #22 range that I appreciate because it shows me this rating system is on a pretty good basis. On that I do agree with Mr. Burgio that we were hoping there would be more on here. The four on here are in definite need and could have probably been done a long time ago. During the last campaign many residents were asking when will my street be done? My point is that I will address to the Mayor is that there are a lot of streets in the range of \$45 or \$50 million dollars. As former Mayor mentioned several times we could probably put \$10 to \$15 million dollars in every ward. I think it's for everybody to think about as to how to get a long-term street solution to conquer this street program. Mr. Mencini commented he appreciates the rating system that was very well put together.

Mr. Stemm commented the questions I get is roadway repair, other than your home, your second largest investment is probably your vehicle; we know vehicle repair maintenance is expensive. We have to focus on this because it's not going away and have to come up with some longevity to figure out a solution on this.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Engineer Piatak, is it safe to say that the streets that are marked as the lowest rating being #22 streets that are needing reconstruction?

Mr. Piatak responded yes, in my opinion. Mr. Piatak followed-up on some of the sentiment by saying the service director and I spent quite a bit of time driving around and looking at the streets, sometimes, it's a little hard to stomach some of the conditions of the streets. There is a tremendous need in the community for revenue to do more for the roads, I concur with that.

Mr. Salvatore stated Stonecrest has been switched out for Hardin?

Mr. Piatak responded, I believe that was the difference between the two and there was an increase in the amount allocated for crack-seal.

Mr. Salvatore would like to see Stonecrest stay on the roads program and add Hardin with additional funds added for street repair. Mr. Salvatore doesn't want to take one street out to add another; would rather add another street.

Mr. Stemm concurred with Councilman Salvatore to keep Stonecrest on this plan.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, that item number two was discussed.

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

2. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CHANGE ORDER BETWEEN BREWER-GARRETT COMPANY AND THE CITY OF BROOK PARK TO CHANGE PLANS IN THE VESTIBULE AREA AND OTHER AREAS OF THE JOHN A. POLONYE COMMUNITY CENTER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Gammella

Mr. Orcutt had questions about the details on the line-items in the \$110,000.

Motion by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Mencini, to have Building Commissioner Hurst answer questions from Council.

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

Ted Hurst
Building Commissioner
City of Brook Park
6161 Engle Road

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Orcutt thanked Mr. Hurst for coming up and asked for a breakdown on some of the additional items being added to the \$5 million dollars' project. Mr. Orcutt asked for a breakdown with the carpentry and drywall line-item?

Mr. Hurst clarified as to the scope of what is being done?

Mr. Orcutt concurred.

Mr. Hurst continued there are numerous things that are occurring. With the proposed new vestibule there is a wall being built, windows and service windows for the Clerk of Courts. There is drywall, hardware, etc., replacement of the ceiling tiles that were damaged from years of roof leaks, this area was a former storage area. So you have that, have drywall and a wall that's being built in the tax area to privatize the tax department; there are some security issues in the tax department that we're trying to resolve. So, there are the structure of walls, drywall, trim, ceiling tiles and things of that nature that are going to be part of the drywall/carpentry package.

Mr. Orcutt asked that has nothing to do with the outside door that will be installed?

Mr. Hurst responded no, that's in the breakdown price for doors along with the installation of the doors.

Mr. Orcutt stated the painting is for the painting of those walls and to have the painter come back.

Mr. Hurst responded that will consist painting of the storage area and the new walls being constructed.

Mr. Orcutt questioned the electrical line-item being for receptacles?

Mr. Hurst responded that's the relocation of light fixtures and the adding of receptacles to service the Clerk of Courts area. Code requires x-amount of outlets per feet of wall so the new tax department wall being constructed will need additional electric added.

Mr. Orcutt mentioned the fire sprinkler?

Mr. Hurst responded that's a relocation of heads because the wall limits the covers of the head; they can't be within six-feet of the wall in order to get the coverage of the sprinkler.

Mr. Orcutt continued the masonry work that needs to be involved there?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Hurst responded that's the actual removing of the outside wall. You'll have to needle-beam that wall by putting beams in to hold the 25' of wall above it until the new steel I-beam is put in place and get all the masonry back in to be ready for the doorframe.

Mr. Orcutt stated with the flooring, that price is just the parquet floor to get repaired, sanded and stained?

Mr. Hurst responded that's to replace an approximate 600 sq. feet of parquet floor to that area and the kitchen floor will be pulled up and replaced. The entire floor will be sanded, bleached and re-stained for a complete refinished floor.

Mr. Orcutt stated to Mr. Hurst, you've been running this project since the start or has it switched hands from the last administration?

Mr. Hurst responded I've been involved in the transfer as well, so for the most part the answer is yes.

Mr. Orcutt stated basically, it was former Mayor Coyne and current Mayor Gammella meeting with the contractor each time.

Mr. Hurst concurred and commented I've been involved with a lot of those visits.

Mr. Orcutt continued when we had this originally the price was \$98,000?

Mr. Hurst concurred and stated that was for the vestibule entrance.

Mr. Orcutt stated included in that was a sidewalk.

Mr. Hurst concurred and stated that was the frost-proof slab and sidewalk taking out to the parking lot.

Mr. Orcutt asked with that sidewalk, who is completing that work, I don't see that on the contract.

Mr. Hurst responded service department crews will be performing that work.

Mr. Orcutt stated I don't want to talk about the finance side of this unless someone is here to represent the Mayor. It looks like that amount has been raised from \$98,000 to \$110,000.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Hurst responded that's inclusive of the change to the tax department, that's why that number increased. Decreased by the sidewalk work and increased by the work to go into the tax department.

Mr. Mencini thanked Mr. Hurst for coming up and has a question on the flooring. That parquet floor in the community room now is going to stay?

Mr. Hurst responded that floor will be completely refinished; there's a big section that's going to be replaced. The entire floor will be sanded, stripped and re-stained so it will look like a new floor.

Mr. Mencini clarified none of the carpet that's been talked about will be installed in the community room?

Mr. Hurst responded the carpet was removed and will speak on what I know of that. There are concerns from the carpet standpoint that we lose the use of that facility area for several programs i.e. Pee-Wee Basketball, Aerobics, jazzercise those programs don't work on carpeted floors. So the concern is that everything is being condensed to the facility, as it is, and now possibly losing another room. That's why the decision was made to remove the carpet to still have the hardwood (floor) and use of that room.

Mr. Mencini stated going by what you said, that will be a multi-purpose room?

Mr. Hurst responded under the former Mayor and current Mayor the pretense that this is going to be a community room first. Council meetings and Mayor's Court will be held in the room, as well, but it will remain community room first and don't want to lose that; both administrations have felt the same way we want this to be a community room. From what I understand, the programs held in that room will ultimately be eliminated if carpeting is used.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Elliott for his thoughts and feelings on this matter?

Mr. Elliott responded that is correct and people have to remember this a recreation department first. The community room already had a number of programs and is a multi-purpose facility. So the transition from evenings for Caucus/Council meetings, Planning and Zoning Board meetings and Civil Service Commission meetings, Mayor's Court and all those things. In addition, there will be other activities as Building Commissioner Hurst mentioned as well as a few more. For instance, the Seniors Club every week, dance programs, athletic programs and some other programs that we're hoping to do. So, the key is that it is a multi-purpose facility and carpet in that kind of area doesn't make sense. We've heard a lot of feedback from the people in the fitness program and from others, as well, this is something that can go back and forth as to what is preferred? This has to be looked at as a

Discussion: cont.

multi-purpose facility that will be used for so many different things and more valuable and useful to the city without carpeting.

Mr. Mencini concurred with that and wants that room used the whole time that building is open. Want to walk by and see people doing aerobics, Pee-Wee Basketball or the seniors; I want to definitely see that room used. On that, do you feel these things are important to that area?

Mr. Hurst responded the questions being fielded at City Hall now and from the people within the facility are concerns with the community room and the new entrance. That's why the change to the entrance for the Clerk of Courts area was brought forward, it's a security issue. It wasn't something brought up on a whim, it was brought forward to myself and others by the city's police department, that's where this all transpired. How to get a separate entrance in there to separate the two facilities on court day? There is not a lot of options, in fact, there is only two, and you have them both. The proposed plan to bring them in through the front of the recreation center or the plan before you currently, there are no other options.

Mr. Mencini stated we want to do the right thing, don't want to hear five-years from now why did they do that or why did they put this in.

Mr. Hurst commented everyone has opinions on whether it is needed or not needed, whether it's good or bad, that's not my position. My position is to tell there are two options; the proposed plan before you or the previous plan; those are the only two. There's other ways but you're not talking about the same dollars and cents, you're talking big, big money and don't think that's something we want to do.

Mr. Mencini asked if there is a holdup are there chances of a cost increase?

Mr. Hurst responded absolutely.

Mr. Vecchio entertained a motion to recess this meeting, move with the Council meeting and then reconvene the Caucus Prior meeting.

Mr. Salvatore interjected before recess, I would like to make a motion to add the Resolution adding Southwest General to the agenda.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Scott, to add the Resolution to the Caucus prior to agenda.

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

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Scott, to add the Resolution to the Council agenda immediately following.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Vecchio stated that will appear under M-1 as Resolution No. 11-2018.

Mr. Salvatore asked for co-sponsors, Councilmembers unanimously raised their hands.

Mr. Elliott commented the purpose for the change order legislation to be on tonight's Caucus Prior to meeting was to get the support to move the legislation to the Council agenda immediately following for passage, because we just continue to delay the project. This is something that needs to be addressed and motions are being made on other items and getting away from something that needs to be addressed. I tried to get attention prior to the motions being made so that we didn't get away from that.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Finance Director Cingle, if this legislation is passed tonight can the project be paid for without the budget being passed?

Mr. Cingle responded by the time the work is completed, hopefully, the budget would be passed. The budget needs to be passed by the end of March and am sure this work would take more than a week and a half to finish.

Mr. Salvatore reiterated if this can be paid for without the budget being passed?

Mr. Cingle responded no.

Motion by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Mencini, to recess the Caucus Prior to and reconvene after the Council meeting to continue discussion on the change order legislation for the community room.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried at 7:35 p.m.

Note: This meeting was reconvened at 8:22 p.m., from the Regular Council meeting.

Mr. Mencini gave the floor to Recreation Director Elliott to continue.

Mr. Elliott stated the purpose of my trying to interrupt at the time was to try to get Council, don't know if it was an oversight or not, to not go out of the Regular Order

Discussion: cont.

of Business. The purpose was to get the legislation on tonight's Council meeting for passage with the intention that the work would be done. I'm sure the budget will be passed by the end of the month, so everything would have been fine, this just delays the project. I was trying to prevent that from occurring because that delays the project another week.

Mr. Mencini stated to Building Commissioner Hurst, is any of this work listed somewhat started?

Mr. Hurst responded no, there are things being held up until this decision is made.

Mr. Poindexter stated to Finance Director Cingle the cost for this change order will come out of the proposed Capital Improvements Budget?

Mr. Cingle responded that's correct.

Mr. Poindexter asked if this item was already taken into consideration when the proposed budget was being prepared?

Mr. Cingle responded yes, it was, it's been properly appropriated.

Mr. Stemm stated this follows up with Mr. Mencini's question prior to the Council meeting. In regards to the carpeting to be financially responsible, the city already purchased it and I feel it should still be installed in the community room and hallway, as planned. I looked at the other rooms and with the new carpeting, paint and trim the room really pops and feels like you're in a new venue. The existing tile is cracked, not level and certain areas are coming up and as far as events in the community room that require parquet it could be possible to use the mini-gym or the gymnasium during scheduled times. The west-end door, we briefly talked about it before as an ingress and egress for Mayor's Court. I think we should explore options on that before making a commitment on anything, I wish the Mayor was here but that is not the case. As far as financing, is there ways to possibly pay online for the violations or mail-in or possibly setting up skype meetings through the police department and arraignments and hearings, I think there is a lot to talk about with this.

Mr. Elliott commented to Councilman Stemm, I said earlier it does boil down to be a preference and respect your comments. I will tell you and let's talk about the carpet, for instance. Back in history with the Recreation Department and as Mayor of the community we had carpeting up the hallway; it is very difficult to maintain. The first two months of this year on Saturday, you were there, very easily 1,500 people can be coming through there on any given day. With the amount of salt and

Discussion: cont.

traffic from the lobby and down that hallway would have been destroyed at this point, in two months. So for that purpose alone, it makes sense to take another look as consideration. There is maybe one or two placed in the hallway that has cracks in the tile that will be replaced. Those areas have not purposely not been replaced, at this point, because there are contractors coming from one end of the building to the other with carts and equipment; wouldn't make sense to do that. When coming back as Recreation Director this year the floor was a disaster and had not been waxed or taken care of for a long time. The floor was stripped, waxed, cleaned it up a little bit and will do that again once the project is completed.

Councilman Stemm, I say this with all respect, we are not a facility that is adult only, that is very important. There are children in the center every day, there are vending machines, concession stands that are open and children are eating pizza, pretzels and drinking soft drinks. Teams are having parties, there are a lot of reasons why not to have carpet in that area. This is not us versus them, it's not that, it is what is most practical for our facility and take into consideration who uses the facility. There has been discussion about two of the blue squares is to pop them out and place in something that is related to the color-scheme now; again, that would be done at the end of the project. Mr. Elliott made a statement about the whole entrance to the community room/Council area. Again, you have to remember, there are about eight, nine or ten programs that are using the community room from a recreation standpoint. So now those eight, nine or ten programs will be combined with Caucus-Council meetings, Board of Zoning meetings, Civil Service meetings, Planning meetings, Mayor's Court and mediation and so on. There are a lot of uses that are going to go on in that room, a lot of set up and tear down and think a lot of those areas take more of a beating. The feedback that we get from the people teaching those programs makes sense. The doorway in that room from a Mayor's Court standpoint, that was first initially brought to everyone's attention from the police department. That it makes sense if there is another area and also safety. I use this example for others and everyone has their opinion, this is just one person's opinion. The original plan is to come into the building and when first enter would go to the left to pay a ticket; where you pay that ticket there is supposed to be bullet-proof glass. 15 feet from that bullet-proof glass in that lobby there are parents signing up their little ones for tee-ball, basketball or some recreation program. There is a bullet-proof glass over there and 15 feet away there's parent, child and staff taking registrations. So people could say it doesn't happen, it's never going to happen and we never thought that would happen in a movie theater in Colorado, or in schools like has been happening, it can happen anywhere. So, for the fact, that you are airing in safety is a great thing, I believe the community as a whole think that is a great thing. Those are some things from someone who has served in a few different positions in the community and currently Recreation Director and spent a lifetime and career being around children and families. If we think that must of them, it's not a tough decision from

Discussion: cont.

where I sit but it is one that needs to be made. If you look at the amount of money being spent for the project, over the course of the life of that payback for 20 years, I don't think is a lot of money. In addition, in my capital budget and have talked to a number of Councilmembers already, we have a few different projects that weren't included in the original project. That we now have to go back and spend additional dollars. One for instance, in the community room in the Council area, that room is being fixed up and improvements are being made, replacing offices for Council and Mayor's Court clerks but not touching the kitchen; so that's a capital improvement item in the Recreation budget. When the project is complete we will go in and replace the kitchen, again, it's a multi-use building, so community groups, families will use that kitchen area. When coming into the building the front desk looks weathered and needs to be replaced, not included in the project. Work will be done in the concession stand area we want to create a small game room that will be part of the recreation capital budget for the children. The children come to the center after school, drop their stuff in the concession area and get to the gym; they don't have a lot of places to go or things to do. In talking with all Councilmembers the consensus is that we all want places for people to go and these are things that will help us make that happen. These things were not included in the project but we'll talk about carpeting and that's where our priorities are a little out of whack. We need to find places for people whether it's seniors, children or anybody that uses that building and they come in we want them to be safe; to me that's our priority and that's what we should be doing. With some of the other discussions that we're having, I'm not sure we're getting there, we've lost track a little bit. Let's get back on track and realize what that building is all about. It's going to be a big change when City Hall and Council come in and we want to make sure that we're doing all that we can to make sure it's a smooth transition. As I've said to all of you we're open for ideas and let's work together to get those done.

Mr. Vecchio asked Recreation Director Elliott is the kitchen currently usable and, if so, what are the needed upgrades and why?

Mr. Elliott responded it's usable but needs to be replaced, it's in bad shape.

Mr. Vecchio stated the only reason I ask, is obviously, we're in a 'wants and needs' predicament in the city with our budget criteria the way it stands currently; so we want to look from all aspects to see where we're at.

Mr. Stemm followed up to Recreation Director Elliott, I respect your comments and appreciate them. For the record, I was by no mean or any stretch of imagination trying to sacrifice any level of security. I understand the world we live in and what goes on out there. Being the Safety Committee Chairman the first time I saw this was a few weeks ago and think we have options to explore with the entrance. I'm

Discussion: cont.

open to any ideas through this Council, that's my point here, and think we have other avenues to explore with this.

Mr. Poindexter stated it's tragic that we paid for the carpet and aren't going to use it but think it would be more tragic to install the carpet, then rip it out after paying for it and then pay to replace that, also. I think the move to not use the carpet is probably long-term plan and wish someone would have known that prior to the carpet being purchased. Mr. Poindexter is in support of the refinishing of the floor and things like that. With the separate entrance, all the safety factors aside which are valid points. When community groups, exercise groups and others use that room they might need a separate entrance to bring items in and out, without interrupting the daily activities of the recreation center. If you try to move items in and out on a Saturday morning during basketball season, that could be a heck of a time trying to get through all the people in the lobby. I also think it behooves us to keep the separate areas as separate as we can. Since Mayor's Court, Council and City Hall will be moving to the Recreation Center, I think we should have everything as separated as possible. We don't want recreation activities flowing into City Hall or Mayor's Court flowing into the Recreation Center or city business flowing into the Recreation Center. So having that separate entrance, just for that area, I think is a great idea and am in full support.

Mr. Scott stated to Building Commissioner Hurst, with this \$110,000, \$80,000 is for the vestibule, \$32,000 is towards the wall for the Tac Department, correct?

Mr. Hurst responded that is correct, possible numbers are correct.

Mr. Scott continued we spoke about this earlier, that you looked at alternative ways to do that over there. That the city will be at risk to litigation, if for some unknown reason, there isn't a complete floor to ceiling wall in the tax department and tax information is leaked while someone is in there; the city could be in trouble for leakage of tax information. I agree with that and think it is something that is needed. Mr. Scott stated to Mr. Mencini, I visited the Berea Recreation Center today and Mr. Mencini you've been there. The center is carpeted but there is one room that has no carpeting, what is that room used for?

Mr. Mencini responded that's the senior room.

Mr. Scott clarified that's a multi-purpose room, correct?

Mr. Mencini responded yes, more or less. It's designed for the seniors and multi-purpose for doing Aerobics, Senior meetings, etc., there is no carpeting because of all the activity taking place in there. I don't know who they have cleaning it all the time which could be a problem for us, as Service Director Garner mentioned the

Discussion: cont.

service department being short-staffed. The carpet in there is more of the indoor-outdoor carpeting.

Mr. Scott continued that community room is a non-carpeted floor.

Mr. Mencini concurred.

Mr. Scott continued I totally agree that our community room should not be carpeted. I also went to Middleburg Heights Recreation Center and there are granite floors everywhere. There was one thing that I noticed in both recreation centers, children. Each recreation center, Middleburg Hts. and Berea, had Mothers coming in with children to go to a play area. If you go in our recreation center during the day, there are no children in there. In talking to Mr. Elliott about the improvements at the recreation center; 1) that front desk is a sham. We're paying \$5.2 million dollars to renovate that building and people coming in look at the front desk. The Formica is being held down by tape, there is old system that sometimes works and sometimes doesn't. With the snack bar area, moving that snack bar back and opening up an area in there for the children, that is something this city needs. That was one glaring point that I saw when visiting the other recreation centers. We have to sometimes, bite the bullet, we're talking \$45,000 renovation in the recreation center for a kitchen, front desk and a snack bar to be moved for an opportunity to possibly put a game room in for the children. I would suggest to everybody visiting Berea and/or Middleburg Hts. recreation centers the one thing you will see is children everywhere. There is a place for children to play while the mothers are working, children can be left with somebody for monitoring. Today, speaking with our Clerk of Courts today, I asked her a question concerning the bullet-proof window over the entrance that we have over there. I explained what was on the drawings and what is out there right now. The Clerk of Courts had six main concerns about that; the first one is not all people paying fines are from Brook Park and feels it will be a free run, over there, by coming in and walking around. Number two, she experiences very abusive language, they scream at her and are very irate. We don't need that for our children or residents to hear that. Again, there was discussion about the back door being used at the Recreation Center and stated to Building Commissioner Hurst. Is that not a fire escape are those doors needed for fire? They need to be open at all times and have to be able to get out at all times.

Mr. Hurst responded yes, and reiterated his position in the building department and as a building official for the city. You have two options, the originally proposed or the side entrance. You can add entrances all over if you'd like but those back doors cannot be blocked off. Coming in through the back doors you're entering the same exact hallway that we're trying to keep them out of. You're walking down that

Discussion: cont.

hallway to the tax (court) window so there are other options that are extremely costly.

Mr. Scott commented a wall cannot be built back there to have the doorway a wall leading into the court house.

Mr. Hurst responded absolutely not.

Mr. Scott commented as Mr. Poindexter stated, those doors are used for deliveries. We've had our banquets and those backdoors are used to haul stuff in and out, I totally agree with that.

Mr. Hurst stated the original plan for the back doors to be used were for the police officers bringing someone from the jail; physically walking or driving to the parking lot and bringing them through the back door to the courtroom, that was the plan for the back doors regarding this. Everyone else would come through the front doors to pay tickets/fines at the front entrance of the recreation center. Half those doors cannot be blocked off, it doesn't work.

Mr. Scott stated another thing about the back door, there are nine parking spaces back there. In talking with the Clerk of Courts she said during the winter season there are approximately 50 people coming in for court; there is no way 50 cars can park back there. During the summer months, there could be 70 to 80 in court and the clerk's main objective was she is protected by bullet-proof glass. To her right is a desk with people sitting there that are not protected and the issue with that is. They are in great danger if something would ever happen. The clerk endorses the new plan with the separate entrance and the one thing she said is in her opinion; we have to restrict movement outside of the court room. I know that the city is in a crunch for money for streets, again, this city and the residents. We have to look at a dedicated revenue stream for our streets, sewers and waterlines. People you have to look back and say what do I want to invest into my city? We cannot continue to do \$1.2 million dollars or \$1.5 million dollars each year for streets; with \$45 million dollars of streets that need to be done. Our Mayor has stated it twice that we have to look at a dedicated revenue stream for our streets. In 2015, if I talked to you and you asked me questions, I told them that a dedicated cash-stream is needed for our roads. Think about the city's future, we're spending \$5.2 million dollars for a renovation on the Recreation Community Center with some minor tweaks that are needed. If it's going to cost \$100,000 or \$150,000 people say, well, that's a road; look at the long-term plan.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mr. Hurst and not sure who can answer them. Where is the carpeting at currently?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Hurst responded the carpeting that is proposed not to be installed is at the service department. That carpet is being utilized, some of it is going to be installed in the Building Department, some of that carpet is going to be installed at the Police Department. I'm not sure if the Fire Department is getting any of that carpeting and some of it is going to be used in the Recreation Center. The carpet is going to be used and that is the reason that the choice was made as opposed to send the carpet back and pay the restocking fee. The city has the carpet, the adhesive and stuff to put the carpet down and it's being installed, as we speak, at the old fire station on Smith Road; where the Building Department and Animal Control is being housed together.

Mr. Vecchio stated currently, some of that carpeting is being used right now?

Mr. Hurst concurred.

Mr. Vecchio continued not sure who mentioned this, carpeting in the lobby of the community center. Was the lobby going to be carpeted, originally? I assume that would be the brown-tile area?

Mr. Hurst responded the scope of work was inside the second doors when entering the door to be buzzed in, that's where the scope of the work started. From that point all the way to the mini-gym was proposed to have carpet.

Mr. Vecchio commented just not over the existing white and blue tiles also the brown that goes along the community center doors.

Mr. Hurst concurred.

Mr. Vecchio asked what protective measures are being put in place in the community room to protect the stage area that will hold the dais for Council; when not in use? Are there any protective measures in place?

Mr. Hurst clarified protective measures for what purpose?

Mr. Vecchio stated for the dais, the Council and meeting dais, that will be used for Planning Commission meetings, Council meetings, etc., obviously there will be electronics if it's similar to what is here. To protect it from community using it or possibly abusing it. Is there a protective measure in place to keep people from being able to go on it when not being used by city representatives?

Mr. Hurst stated, with all due respect, when it's a community event there are people in charge of that event and are overseeing that room, I would venture that they would take care of it. As a family function, yes, there is a protection in place for

Discussion: cont.

that and it's called a damage waiver to rent the room. As far as, used for a sports banquet or children getting up there messing around I don't we can protect ourselves from ourselves, I think the adults would do the right thing and not allow

the children to be up there. All of us have had banquets at Ford Intermediate or Brook Park Memorial and the community room and didn't see curtains being ripped down or speakers and podiums destroyed in that situation. I understand your concern and do know that it is being looked at to possibly put a stage-type draw curtain across there to sort of hide that but that's down the road. There have been discussions and think that we're going to put our trust in the people and hope everyone does the right thing, could it happen, yes it could. The electronics will be under lock and key with no access to turn on computers, microphones, etc.

Mr. Burgio stated he's glad to hear the carpeting is going to be utilized. We are very fortunate in the city to have professionals in these positions. Mr. Burgio appreciates that Mr. Hurst is very knowledgeable and breaks items down for everyone to understand clearly. Mr. Elliott knows children and recreation and we all want what is best for families and children and know that Mr. Elliott wants the center to exceed and excel. I agree with the proposal here and think it is necessary for safety and am on board with what we're going to do.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Recreation Director Elliott that kitchen being discussed is the original one built?

Mr. Elliott concurred.

Mr. Orcutt thanked Mr. Hurst and Mr. Elliott for speaking on this issue. There are some things that I agree with everyone in this room on and some things that I don't agree with on this project. I think that if we all come together and agree on one thing that is safety being number one. Also, maybe the location of that window where there may be someone coming into the center to work out and there's their neighbor paying a traffic ticket or walking out of court, that would be a bit embarrassing I think. I thought that from the beginning once I found out the plans and agree with a few of my colleagues for throwing out good questions. The reason I agree with them is because we need to be extremely cognizant of every dollar spent in this community. Walking last summer and the biggest thing heard from the people are the roads; if we look at our roads program it's extremely tight. A lot of the questions being asked about the kitchens is very good. Because as the Council President stated, I think we do need to focus on our needs; not just our wants. This is something that we do need to come to a middle on and have to be very careful. It's not only the roads being questioned right now; as we all know that program is completely underfunded. I'm also getting questioned on when the pool is opening? I don't know and the Mayor isn't here, I don't know what to tell

Discussion: cont.

the people on that subject. Because that was a big campaign item this past summer. As we talk about this I think it's healthy that good questions are being asked and thanked his colleagues for bringing this up. Both Mr. Elliott and Mr. Hurst made great points, Mr. Elliott speaking on the carpet and children with food and such; it makes sense. I also believe that carpet does make areas pop and hope it is used in there. I think this is something where, I still haven't received it, but would like to see an original breakdown from Brewer-Garrett on what this project was about. Because I hear different things; there was a parking lot to be installed and now it's not. Where is that money? Why does Council have an Ordinance to approve \$110,000 when there were other changes made. So, as we have this discussion, I would like to make a comment to my colleagues. We have to remember how we got here and what the residents were talking about. It was about the roads, the pool and many things so we have to be cognizant of the people that are the hard-working taxpayers.

Mr. Hurst clarified the energy renovation project with Brewer-Garrett there was no parking lot involved in that contract' so there is nothing there from Brewer-Garrett's standpoint. The original contract of the renovation part of this Brewer-Garrett's job was the mechanical and aesthetic upgrades of the building, that type of thing. Phones, computers and those types of items was city projects. Not part of Brewer-Garrett and the \$5.2 million dollars.

Mr. Orcutt commented I would like to see the original plan, think I requested it one time, and would like to see that.

Mr. Hurst clarified original?

Mr. Orcutt interjected the original cost plan, I wasn't on Council at that time, but I'd like to see an original contract.

Mr. Hurst responded that is something that would need to go through the Mayor's office.

Mr. Vecchio stated is there a detailed punch-list of what was being done originally to where we're at now available? Is that something that should be followed up with the Mayor.

Mr. Hurst responded there was a set of design-build drawings that the project was being built by, I thought Council had a set of those drawings. It has changed a little bit since due to some of the changes we went through. The project, itself, is on the drawings; mechanical drawings from Brewer-Garrett and the design drawings from the architect.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Mencini stated to Building Commissioner Hurst on this \$5.2 million dollars' project, how much of that went up on the roof?

Mr. Hurst responded I don't have the details...

Mr. Mencini interjected roughly, 20%, 40%...

Mr. Hurst interjected I couldn't even to begin to speculate, I know nothing about the dollars and cents of the project.

Mr. Mencini asked would it be high?

Mr. Hurst responded I would say it's a big number for the roof repairs, that was the majority.

Mr. Mencini stated to keep that building viable, correct?

Mr. Hurst responded the majority of the cost for this project was the HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) mechanical work that was done up there.

Mr. Mencini stated I brought that up because that tends to slip a lot. We're talking about carpet and moving things but that was a big number when I heard it.

Mr. Hurst commented I think, \$2.9 million dollars, \$3.1 million dollars; there was a \$3-million-dollar number out there, for the actual mechanical work.

Mr. Mencini clarified the carpet is being used in other city buildings?

Mr. Hurst concurred.

Mr. Mencini asked will the city lose anything because of that by not being put into the original plan?

Mr. Hurst responded the carpet has nothing to do with the energy conservation part of this project, it is not affecting the energy-savings by not having the carpet in there. Brewer-Garrett has assured us that there is no change in the contract, nor will there be, by eliminating the carpet in those two areas. Mr. Hurst continued I know this legislation will be moved to the next Caucus or Council the one thing I will say is. The longer we wait to make the decision the more chance prices will increase. We are in a holding pattern and I can't stop work much longer before the city starts getting charged for it. There are areas the contractors cannot work in, they could, but it would cost the city more to tear it back out without this decision. The opinion of who wants to do what and how it should be done, I'm not passing my

Discussion: cont.

opinion. I'm just asking that we be diligent with our decision because if it's no, we're going to continue. If it's yes, we can continue on the changes and not get into more monies and costs down the road.

Mr. Poindexter stated when this proposal was presented to the public, I wasn't a big fan, for this very point that we are at right now. It was sold that we were going to get this big, beautiful, brand new recreation center. I knew that wasn't the case and made my feelings clear to whoever would listen. But, what happened, has happened and here we are now with everyone saying we need to decide needs or wants. Right now, we need to address this issue and get moving forward with the doors and other changes proposed. So we can get this project done and realizing the savings that the project was designed for, to begin with. We're talking about being stressed for money, let's get this project done. To realize the savings of approximately \$350,000 a year or something that the city is supposed to be saving, we can really use that money. I'm not sure if special meetings need to be called so the contractors can get back to work, get the door put in and the project finished up.

Mr. Salvatore appreciated the appreciates the comments from Recreation Director Elliott and don't believes that a price can be put on safety. I don't think it's a matter of dollars and cents, I think safety is of utmost importance and totally in support of protecting the children and parents. I understand the ramifications of this project where it started and where it's at now. I do understand the importance and need of a quick resolve to this, obviously, it's going to require special meetings called as well with the budget.

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Salvatore, that item number two was discussed.

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

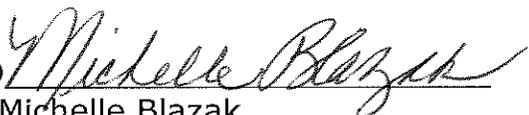
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

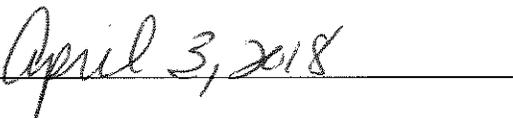
There being no further business to come before this meeting a **motion** by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Poindexter, to adjourn.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 9:09 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.