

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 28, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Vecchio at 8:00 p.m., who read the meeting notice. The clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

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

Also in attendance were Mayor Elliott, Administrative Assistant D'Amico, Law Director Horvath, Service Director Garner, Fire Chief Maund, Finance Director Cingle, Assistant Finance Director Healy, Engineer Piatak, Economic Development Commissioner Adams, Recreation Director Elliott, Police Chief Foster, Building Commissioner Hurst (8:30 p.m.).

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON SUBJECT MATTER ON THIS AGENDA ONLY:

Thomas J. Coyne, Jr.
23589 Woodhill Drive

Mr. Coyne stated I left a report for the current Mayor done by Marous Brothers about the Recreation Center and believe Council, if you don't have, you should have it. This report clearly addresses the issues with the pool and by numbers provided to Council and the citizens of the community are right on. What's important and not in this budget or addressed and probably the most important item in this review; is the masonry issues with the whole building i.e. tuck-pointing and brick work that needs replacement. While that issue should not be addressed now until the total issue of the pool is done but is evident to everybody is that the roof has to come off. There's about \$130,000 in tuck-pointing that relates to the gym, cafeteria and those other issues. I suggest before Council finally enacts their capital budget they take a real-strong look at that. Another issue is how did we get here on these buildings and have heard Councilman Poindexter and voicing their dismay over this project. This project was not a comprehensive, all-inclusive of the recreation center; it was mandated by need. These buildings (City Hall & Council Chambers) were failing and the recreation center HVAC (Heating, Ventilation & Air-Conditioning) system most of the project is on the roof. Why? There are pictures of the oscillating lawn sprinkler keeping the systems going, that's what was done there. So the choice was one thing the Mayor said correctly it takes three buildings and puts them into one, because it was necessary. Let me tell you why? In 2011, this city received a grant of \$185,000 to improve the boiler room systems of the city. The decision was made to put in new windows, the boiler systems were never fixed. Everyone can see the continuing, ongoing issues with failings so analyzing that cost to make efficient

Remarks from the audience on subject matter on this agenda only: cont.

and effective improvements and the recreation center it was a case of either the city opens one or close the other. The issue of the pool if people remember, at that time, the city laid-off police and fire personnel. So the choice was does the city hire lifeguards or pay the waste of energy going out the roof of the pool; or is gasoline put in the police and fire vehicles to keep them working. This is under that umbrella that the decisions were made on the recreation center; it wasn't to do anything else except that issue. There was also a decision made, some years ago, to tear down the concession and lavatory facilities at Kennedy field. If Council has any priorities I'm hearing about the hoax that the seniors and youth are going to be threatened by a window for citizens to pay tickets. At least Council ought to find some way to get the lavatory facilities back at Kennedy park. I would think that is a priority, and Service Director Garner back, who is probably the most knowledgeable, perhaps can find a sewer-line to get toilets at the facility, I think is a priority for recreation. Everything else in that building, I believe, should be held onto until such a time as to see how it functions. With recognition to Mr. Mencini who said it best he went through this in 1998 with the recreation center; a massive renovation of the building rather than a rebuild, which should have been done. I don't see in the near future this city affording to buy a new recreation center and mentioned at the last meeting where I spoke; wait until you get the budget. I want to address the most important issue and that is the capital issues, that is going to be a challenge, and I'm sure Council will make the right decisions. I watched the last meeting and the reason I'm really here is with the residents on the west end of this city. For better or for worse, I made a decision that was not supported by any election official in this city at the time. To make an agreement with the City of Cleveland that was passed by the people of this community by a vote. They made a determination that this city should enter into that agreement and the fruits of that agreement today is looking at the budget and subtracting \$6 million-dollars to see what is being faced today. Part of the provision of that agreement was residents in different zones would eventually, at least have the opportunity to be prompted an offer for their property. That was denied by residents in a couple of zone of the city, it was done not by Council-matic action, not a vote of the people, it was done by a Memorandum of Understanding. I'm not here to castigate and problems for anyone, I'm here to advocate for these people who were left behind before; this Council must not leave them behind again, it's simply been intolerable for these people. I believe that the law department with special counsel is in a great position to make these people whole for what happened to them over these years. The stopping of this was discovered, I believe Council has and if not I'll make sure you get it, was done under discovery by the City of Cleveland; it didn't exist in any place or any records of this community. So no matter what else Council does with this budget do not move the resources necessary to protect those people; give the law director the ammunition needed and the success will be there. I'm sure later on in this year if it's not impeded by anybody that Council won't have to worry about that \$200,000

Remarks from the audience on subject matter on this agenda only: cont.
and will get any monies expended. That to me is the most important by enacting this budget and why I'm speaking here this evening.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. ORDINANCE NO. 11017-2018, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO, STATE OF OHIO, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018. Introduced by Mayor Gammella

Mr. Mencini requested Police Chief Foster to the podium to answer questions.

Jim Foster
Chief of Police
City of Brook Park
17401 Holland Road

Mr. Mencini stated to Mr. Foster thank you to you and the department for the terrific job done, as well as all safety forces. Due to a tight budget, Council is looking to do things that can be done, but there are things that can't be done. Mr. Mencini asked Police Mr. Foster for a brief summary of the Police Department funding list.

Mr. Foster thanked Council for the invitation to appear here this evening and stated currently there are 36 members of the police department; with three retiring early January, 2019, including Mr. Foster; currently there are two on extended sick leave, one on bereavement and a few in training. Everyone is expected to come back it's just a matter of time when the doctors clear them from sick leave. I recently had a meeting with the Auxiliary Executive Officer and always had 20 or more auxiliaries in the city. A recruitment was done last year at the Safety Fair, unfortunately, the department didn't get new auxiliary officers for the city. The department will be done to nine auxiliary officers come next month because two are resigning due to health reasons. The auxiliaries are an important unit, a volunteer unit, and supplement issues. There was an OVI (Operating a Vehicle under Influence) accident last night that took down a power line at Sylvia and Smith Road at 1:30 a.m. and the streets didn't open up until 9:00 a.m. Auxiliaries came in and handled that situation so that officers were free to answer calls due the electrical lines being down. With nine auxiliaries it doesn't mean they are always available, they hold jobs and have responsibilities, this is just a voluntary commitment. There will be a need for the auxiliaries tomorrow when President Trump comes into town; when the President comes in all law enforcement around the area are involved with that visit. All roads to the airport come through Brook Park so the department is always, no matter who comes to

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

visit, is a total shutdown. For the first time there won't be enough officers to man the posts and have requested assistance from the City of Cleveland for manpower. Things are tight and in my career have never been tighter, it is important that the department does not go any lower than it is right now, in my opinion. If that happens the department will make the best of it and will do whatever is needed. It is a thin-line and we border the City of Cleveland, there are 3,500 employees at NASA plus all the visitors so there is an issue. The way it's going to be fixed is through manpower, police officers.

Mr. Mencini thanked Mr. Foster for the outlook and the observation and would have to say the police department is one place we don't want to be short. If I'm not mistaken, at one point, the department was at 44 patrol officers.

Mr. Foster responded 44 was the number the department had for a pretty long time but since the last ten years, or so, the department has reduced through attrition and officers haven't been replaced.

Mr. Mencini stated the police department has the CodeRed used for the incident on Richard and the west end where people had to be called in. When situations like that happen does it become a problem at the station when the department is short-staffed?

Mr. Foster responded situations like that are properly prepared for through the regional agreements. There is the SEB (Southwest Enforcement Bureau) that are SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics Tactics) Teams, Bomb Teams, Hostage Negotiator and they have a command post and armored vehicle. Usually when there is an incident like that the SEB is called in and within an hour they are on post.

Mr. Mencini commented on that particular night they did an excellent job.

Mr. Foster mentioned you were there that night and we were able to talk and there were rumors going around that weren't true or partially true and appreciate you getting the word out to the community as to what was going on, one by one, that it wasn't as everyone thought.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Foster if he has the budget fund request?

Mr. Foster responded yes, the original and revised.

Mr. Mencini stated with the eight bulletproof vests replacement? Has that been accomplished or are the vests still needed.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Foster responded I'm told they're going to be bought this year, these vests are in the contract for the police officers. Also, not mentioned in there, of the state program that reimburses the city approximately 80% of that cost. The department goes by the bulletproof warranty, unfortunately, the vests are only warranted for five years; after five years they are not considered good. So the vests are replaced every five years and eight officers will receive them this year. The bills will be submitted to the State of Ohio grant program and depending on the funding for the year the city will get an 80% reimbursement or approximately \$6,000 back, which generally, I have put back in the General Fund. I could make an issue that it's the department's capital but have never done that.

Mr. Mencini stated with the seven police vehicles?

Mr. Foster commented that number has been revised to five, in talking with Service Department Foreman, John Pensis, who knows the vehicles the best. I was hoping to get seven but five will be sufficient for the police department, for this year.

Mr. Mencini commented those vehicles run 24/7 and take a beating and also do a lot of sitting, which is just as bad as driving. Mr. Mencini asked would that be the Ford Explorers or Taurus'?

Mr. Foster responded we are looking at three Ford Explorers that will replace the marked first-responding unit vehicles and one Ford Taurus marked for traffic enforcement. With Taurus' and Explorers' we have gone to wrapping the vehicles, instead of painting. It is cheaper to get a car that is all black then put the wrapping on the car which saves the city money and benefits the look of the vehicle and protects the vehicle. When the life of the vehicle has ended in the police department that vehicle can be repurposed within the city, currently the building department and service department are using former police vehicles. Not that the vehicles are bad it's just that police first respond vehicles have become a second-rate vehicle, but for normal driving in the city they're fine and should have an extended life of five years.

Mr. Mencini asked about the Building and Jail Surveillance Camera System?

Mr. Foster responded I'm not sure the department can get that this year because of the funding. We'll have to wait to see how the vehicles come through and what the department can come up with on that.

Mr. Mencini continued with the Outside Vest Carrier?

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Foster responded things change in every occupation and profession and what's happening is there is so much gear on the police officers' belts and doesn't fit on the belts anymore. Plus, it is actually causing, from studies done, back problems with the officers. Currently, the city has one officer that is experiencing back problems attributed to his belt. So the outer vest carriers hold the bullet-proof vest and come off, normally the vests go under the shirt and when the officer doesn't need the vest, like in the police station, they can take the vest off. The vest also carries the officer's extra gear on the outside and this is something the officers never had before. Within the last five years the vests have come available and there are some, in my opinion, that are too tactical; like a SWAT officer. The vests have been refined and match the uniform material and thinking about going with these vests for the health, safety and better performance by the officers. This expense will be coming out of the Law Enforcement (LE) Fund.

Mr. Mencini stated with the Records Room Renovations for a cost of \$25,000.

Mr. Foster would like to get that this year, the records room is the dispatch room built in the 1970's and remodeled once. In 38 years that is the second carpet laid and dispatchers used to be able to smoke in that room so the ceiling tiles are discolored from the smoke and all the radio equipment from dispatch is in there. So when people come in the lobby to the window that's what they see so I'd like to modernize that area. It doesn't look bad but I would like for it to look the best professional way the area can look at a minimal amount.

Mr. Mencini questioned the Officers' Report Room?

Mr. Foster responded the room size has been increased and hoping to have the room filled, however, I have been told that there might be some furniture from the tax department with the move.

Mr. Mencini questioned the Captain's Offices/Conference Room?

Mr. Foster responded the area is in need of renovation, there haven't been any changes since the building was built.

Mr. Mencini questioned the two (2) server replacements?

Mr. Foster responded the IT Service the city has recommended last year the department get the servers because they are ready to fatigue. At that time, I asked if the servers could be stretched out another year and thought we could. Speaking with IT yesterday he told me those servers are needed this year and is one thing I plan on putting in for.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Mencini stated with the Detective Bureau Equipment with half coming from the LE or Federal Forfeiture Fund.

Mr. Foster responded that varies from year to year and currently I'm not positive of what we're looking for but whatever it is that refund will match whatever capital we have.

Mr. Mencini questioned the appropriated \$234,000 for overtime is that a sufficient amount being the number of officers?

Mr. Foster responded I'm going to do everything that I can to keep that number but wouldn't be surprised if it doesn't increase some; one injury or early retirement would cause a high chance for overtime.

Mr. Mencini thanked Mr. Foster and all the police officers.

Mr. Salvatore thanked Mr. Foster for being in attendance, most of his questions were already answered. For clarification, this budget funding request from February 3rd has a request for seven vehicles at \$260,000 is now reduced to five vehicles, correct.

Mr. Foster concurred.

Mr. Salvatore continued that would be three Ford Explorers and one Ford Taurus, that is only four vehicles?

Mr. Foster interjected I'm also looking for one Ford F-150.

Mr. Salvatore stated the \$260,000 is for purchase, correct?

Mr. Foster responded we do a three-year lease so the payments are spread out for those three years, when the lease is completed the City of Brook Park owns the vehicles.

Mr. Salvatore asked what would that number be?

Mr. Foster responded as far as payment, it would be 1/3 of cost.

Mr. Cingle commented we budgeted in \$58,000 to lease the vehicles for the five vehicles.

Mr. Salvatore continued with the bullet-proof vests, those are needed no matter what, that's a contract item and the vests only have a five-year guarantee.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Salvatore stated with the grant program under contract, does the city have to pay for the vests first and then get reimbursed?

Mr. Foster responded yes, the city has to pay for them and show that they are paid for and submit the receipt to get reimbursed.

Mr. Salvatore commented to get a grant it really shouldn't be included in the budget but understand payment first and when those monies are reimbursed can be put somewhere for good use.

Mr. Salvatore asked Mr. Cingle to simplify all the items requested what was the final decision made that Council will be discussing and voting upon?

Mr. Cingle stated the City of Brook Park proposed Capital Improvement expenditures shows the listing for the police department building improvements in the amount of \$50,000. Mr. Cingle will provide copies of this worksheet.

Mr. Salvatore expressed while waiting his disappointment of having 20 auxiliaries and are now down to nine; the auxiliaries play an excellent role and do an amazing job. What process is used for recruitment and why is there such a problem in responses?

Mr. Foster responded it's a combination of reasons, I think a lot of volunteer organizations in general have a hard time finding volunteers. The other thing is, I'm not sure, if people are not interested with law enforcement. At one time, for the patrol officers police examination there would be 800 people applying and used the IX Center to take the exam, that was just over 20 years ago. Now, the exam in 2017 there were 36 people applying to take the test. This is a general trend taking place in our area and don't know the reason but the numbers are showing as going down.

Mr. Salvatore stated with the \$234,000 in overtime I'm sure you've taken into consideration a situation where patrol officers are out on medical leave and so forth, all that is incorporated into the \$234,000?

Mr. Foster responded correct, there will always be someone on sick time, at the end of January men were out at the beginning. Hopefully, this doesn't cause a problem and it's been calculated and the overtime was increased by the pay raise increase of 2%. We will monitor the overtime and if for some reason someone goes out an adjustment will be required.

Mr. Salvatore asked if one or two police officers were added what effect does that have on the overtime amount?

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Foster responded I haven't studied that one per one but know will decrease the overtime. Let me go back, the overtime is made up of a couple of things, it's made up of court appearance. The night shift generally has, and always have, in our department and most departments seems like that's where most arrests take place; afternoon and early morning hours. The court appearances are during the day so anytime there's a court appearance those officers come in on overtime. More and more of the training I have to pay overtime for them to go; we're at a point where we can adjust the officer's hours so much. We have four eight-hour trainings a year for the 32-hours of training they get. The state has required 40 hours of training this year plus some additional training i.e. rapid response drills and other tactics the officers train in will do that in addition to the required. So there are more and more demands in every direction and some of it has to be overtime for the training.

Mr. Salvatore thanked Mr. Foster for his explanation so that everybody understands there is certain criteria that applies to overtime.

Mr. Stemm thanked Mr. Foster for coming and stated it's important to stress with the state mandates of training for police officers. It's important to have a certain amount of numbers each year or their commissions could be suspended, is that correct?

Mr. Foster responded that's correct and relatively new, there was never a requirement up until about six years ago.

Mr. Stemm interjected more and more training is being added every year, so Council it's important that they get this training done in the fiscal year or calendar year. So the officers don't lose their commission and able to work.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mr. Cingle with capital improvement expenditure just handed-out, underneath police is a vehicle lease of \$58,000 and two lines below there are leases for \$102,063.00. What are those leases?

Mr. Cingle responded currently the city has two police interceptor leases, both are roughly \$46,000 each and the copier lease of about \$10,000, that almost all departments have, would be included in there as well.

Mr. Poindexter stated this proposed capital improvements expenditures is that the total for all of them?

Mr. Foster responded yes, that's what I put in for, of course, after you put in for them there's always some other things that come across the desk, this is what I've put in for 2018.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Poindexter stated with the Federal Forfeiture Fund taking care of the building improvements and half of the detective bureau improvements. I come up with a total of about \$220,000 and see that it's appropriated for \$254,000.

Mr. Foster commented that's the number I've been given.

Mr. Poindexter stated to Mr. Cingle is that extra \$30,000 or is that something that can be extracted from there?

Mr. Cingle responded with the \$220,000, \$70,000 of that is going to be part of the Federal Forfeiture Fund 272. So half of the cost of the building improvements budgeted at \$100,000; with 50% coming from Capital Fund 401 and 50% coming from the Federal Forfeiture Fund 272. With the 2018 dollars on the sheet handed out \$150,000 is appropriated for the Police Department plus the leases that were entered into prior to 2018. So adding all that together the total amount would be \$250,000 plus almost \$10,000 carried over from 2017. So the total proposed appropriations for the Police Department Capital Improvements Fund would be about \$265,000 and the other costs are in the Federal Forfeiture.

Mr. Poindexter stated I thought the \$50,000 was the total and half was coming out of there.

Mr. Cingle interjected no, that's half the piece for the Capital; there's another \$50,000 in the Federal Forfeiture Fund.

Mr. Orcutt thanked Mr. Foster for coming and stated Fund 270 - Law Enforcement Fund and Fund 272. What can those monies be used for in detail?

Mr. Foster was aware this question has been asked and read the manual explanation. 'Section B says the funds can be for an increase and not replace. The funds must be used to increase or supplement the resources of the receiving local law enforcement agency or any other ultimate recipient. Should resources shall not be used to replace or supplant the appropriate resources of the recipient. The recipient agency must benefit directly from the sharing; it is to determine whether supplementation has occurred. The Department of Justice will examine the law enforcement agency's budget as a whole and allow agencies to use the funds for any permissible purpose as long as the funds increase the entire law enforcement budget. The Department of Justice may terminate the sharing with the law enforcement agency that are not permitted by the governing authorities to benefit directly from the sharing'. What this is saying is the funds have been forfeited through court for drug enforcement, usually it's drug enforcement, and the courts have agreed legislators that if the funds should be used for law enforcement to enhance; to go over what normal for law enforcement. What they were seeing is the police department getting \$100,000 from many agencies

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

and decreasing the normal budget by \$100,000 and giving some of that money to the other departments. They said this wasn't the purpose of this law enforcement fund, this is strictly for law enforcement to benefit and go above and beyond what we're looking for. An example of one of the thing I'm considering, is the new vehicles. New literature has been received that Ford has introduced some protective glass, bullet-resistant glass, for the cars. It's an addition and the department has never had that before, that's not a normal item the department has had before. I'm considering using that money once I get a dollar amount and adding to it. It wouldn't come out of the capital of the city it would come out of that fund to enhance and protect law enforcement or be able to have them go further. That's what the funds are for it's not a fight over money, my money not your money, the purpose is and that's why they do a yearly audit with the Assistant Finance Director. We go through it and submit it to the Department of Justice and they go through it and want the city's budget dollars, again, it's to enhance the department to go further. Some of the items purchased through this fund was the Tasers, AR-15 and items like that. If they find out that we bought anything else with the funds because they just lowered our budget and told us to use those they could take all the funds back and zero out the account. That's why I try to work every year with the Finance Director and in conversations he wants to take the money which is good but when it comes to push and shove he recites it pretty well about the funds that are for law enforcement purpose.

Mr. Orcutt thanked Mr. Foster for simplifying the explanation.

Mr. Salvatore stated the bullet-proof sounds like a great idea will that be all the windows our just the windshield?

Mr. Foster responded I'm still finding out about it but there's a panel for the driver's side door glass and also in the door itself. Also, when the vehicle is retired and let's say the department gets another Ford Explorer that can be transferred to that next vehicle with a cost. Obviously, there is a cost with the transferring of vehicles with the lights, the radios and all the equipment and it does add up to about \$3,000 to \$5,000 that is calculated in here.

Mr. Salvatore stated from what you just read about that fund it sounds to me that fund could be used to put officers in the schools. I was wondering if you would look into off-duty Brook Park Officers in the schools and be paid the going rate of whatever a police officer would receive if on-duty. The officer would be in full uniform with weapon and work off-duty. I wouldn't mind having a backup officer for whatever is going on but that may clean up some of the drug and other issues that are going in the schools and to provide safety and limit the risk of someone coming in with a firearm. Someone wanting to do something may think twice when seeing a police officer in the school; I was part of a program implemented at

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

the airport 30 years ago that is still being used today. Berea Superintendent was in attendance at a meeting recently and stated that the City of Berea is doing this and I think Brook Park should find a way to fund this permanently for the ability of protecting our children.

Mr. Foster stated working with Mayor Gammella's office we looked at some possible state funding grants and had a conversation about applying for a SRO (School Resource Officer) that is similar to the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officer; that is under a different funding; they are both out of the same grant but are separate. The DARE Officer is there to teach and the city gets reimbursement based on what is being taught and the SRO Officer is there for different reasons. We are looking at that grant and have been in contact with other chiefs, my peers and the Cities of Berea and Middleburg Hts. Police Departments. If you're asking my opinion we're hoping that all cities can reach the same agreement with one school district. I'm not competing with the Berea or Middleburg Hts. Police Department let's come up with one policy and this is the funding. A 50-50 number is what I would throw out as a starting point and then we'll figure out how to fund the rest whether through grant or some other funding through the police department and then get the right personnel as the SRO. Those other problems we could solve once the funding is in place especially when coming down to one school, it won't be as difficult.

Mr. Vecchio thanked Police Chief Foster for coming and Chief Foster thanked everyone for the positive comments and support of the police department.

Thomas Maund
Fire Chief
City of Brook Park
17401 Holland Road

Mr. Scott what is the department's manning numbers currently and many are out and is there an issue?

Mr. Maund responded currently there are 29 Firefighter/Paramedics with 27 devoted to first response and three that are considered administrative and not first response; myself, the assistant chief and fire inspector.

Mr. Scott asked if there are any currently out on leave?

Mr. Maund responded currently one came back today out of the three that are on long term injury.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Scott asked for a description on the Station No. 9 door project, what is that all about?

Mr. Maund responded the door project is about moving the ladder into a first-line response. The ladder truck was purchased in 2002 and paid \$750,000 for that equipment and have been unable to respond it because of manning. The ladder is responded to other cities and commercial buildings and fire alarms in this city but when we do that we drop the response of an ambulance at that time. Basically, by renovating the 1958 West-End Fire Station, referred to Station 9 now, we're going to bump the doors to respond the ladder from that location. The hope is to respond the ladder to most commercial buildings greater than three stories high. NASA being the city's biggest tax-payer only asks for one service and that is Brook Park Fire. NASA has their own police force, they have their own service department and only ask the city for fire and ems protection. By putting the ladder on the west end it's the biggest water resource, the most water can be thrown with the ladder and also do elevated master streams. According to the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) standards 1710 a ladder is required to respond on all structure fires, including residential house fires. Currently, the department can't respond to that because the only think that fits in the 1958 station is a pumper, one of the department's smaller pumper is the 1996 pumper. So we respond that pumper and respond the 2002 first-line pumper from the main station No. 8 on Holland Road. We have to get our ladder from another city so, in essence, we have \$1 million-dollar piece of equipment that goes to the city's commercial fires manned only with two people or three and other people's fires. When that is done we rob our current pumper to staff the ladder and respond to the Cities of Middleburg Hts., Berea, Parma Hts., etc.

Mr. Scott clarified with the manning there are five at the main station and two at the west end. What is the procedure if a pumper is called out from the main station? How many men are on that typically on call?

Mr. Maund responded typically, we try to staff with four but occasionally if the ambulance is out on a run simultaneously it could be as low as two, sometimes three. From that station we have several pieces of apparatus but don't have enough men to staff that apparatus; so we do what's called jump-staffing; it is popular in this area but not necessarily popular in fire service. Jump-staffing means that whenever the call comes in as you take that vehicle for that emergency; we jump-staff out at Station No. 9, west-end. There are two men at that station with ALS (Advanced Life Support ambulance and a pumper. In order to provide three men on EMS (Emergency Medical Service) calls the department has what is called the 'chase vehicle' that goes with the ambulance on most EMS runs, in case it becomes a life threatening situation where three paramedics are needed for resuscitation. The person in the 'chase vehicle' leaves the vehicle at

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the scene and accompany the squad; if not needed then comes back to man one of the remaining units at the main station; that 'chase vehicle' is instrumental. Everything done at the fire station like this budget request is about putting Band-Aid on minimum manning. Currently, there is a minimum manning that is part of the contract with the labor union, however, I've advised the previous and current administration that we cannot man two stations with less than seven men and provide the services to the citizens. If you drop the minimum manning any further, we will have to close apparatus that we cannot respond. Currently, we are able to handle three ambulance calls with seven men. Providing three men to probably 85% of all those ambulance calls but when we do that we abandon our fire capabilities, it's called jump-staffing. At one time, the fire department had 40 men and today have 30; 27 that respond. One issue I saw during a recent livestream is the overtime, is there something that can be done to manage the overtime? Overtime is nothing more than a shell game, if you have manning you're going to pay more in salaries and benefits and less in overtime. If you don't have the manning you're going to pay more in manning to keep the seven-man minimum. I believe, Councilman Scott stated he has documentation of the department's overtime dropped one year to \$76,000, that's because the minimum manning dropped and the department was consolidated into one station; after the closure of the west-end station. When that happened if the department drops below the seven-man minimum they weren't replaced; if the department dropped below six-men we started closing our services to the citizens, meaning three ambulances can't be staffed at that point. That did happen a few times during that \$76,000 overtime that I would not replace and that was a directive from the administration at that time. Subsequently, the opening of the west-end station forced the administration to then staff a seven-man minimum. Mr. Maund continued that he cannot control the CVA and read the section of the CVA relating to Minimum Manning. 'As long as the city continues to operate the current number of fire stations the employer shall maintain a schedule of not less than seven firefighters to be on duty and assigned firefighting/paramedic duties' and this is beyond my control. We are at a tipping point now, in the last five years we've see our run volume increase almost 1,000 runs and our manning steadily go down from 34 to 30 and the department's budget has been flat, with a little bit of increase and that is overall operations. Mr. Maund stated the annual reports are available to read that lists the overtime, salaries for that year and the combination of both, by the way, my budget is 95% salaries and benefits. From 2017 the department was at about \$3,054,859 and in 2013 the department was at \$2,976,333. So what I'm trying to depict there is that even though manning from 34 to 30 has steadily gone down. Because of wages and benefits negotiated by the city; the overall operating budget on wages and benefits have gone up; even though manning has gone down, as you know it costs money to staff a fire department. Anytime you want to come over to the fire station I can address any education as how the crews go about fighting fires, embracing modern firefighting

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techniques with minimum manning and suffering all over the country. Councilmembers Stemm and Poindexter came along on a few calls to see how the department operates. The other thing is the revisiting of the capital request on the station is by allowing that \$1 million-dollar apparatus to go into service full time. The previous administration recognized that our frontline pumper is reaching 20-years old and, at that point, our mechanics have been consulted and said they can probably keep it afloat for two more years. An ambulance and fire truck is not like a normal service department vehicle. It has to respond every time and cannot stall, if it stalls with all the equipment on it we can't take the equipment off and put it on another truck and get to that scene in a timely fashion. As you know fire glows times two every minute it's left unchecked so it's imperative that crews get to the fire as soon as possible. Going over the capital budget I don't know if Council has the adjusted wish list and will explain. The plans for the station was approved by Council after the closure of Station No. 4 on the east end of the city after the thruway was done on Snow Road. The \$124,000 was approved by Council at that time and, again, the primary reason was to pump the doors to allow modern firefighting apparatus to respond from that location. It also included new HVAC, glass block windows instead of the single-pane windows that currently exist; some modernization over the 1958 vintage heating system in the apparatus room. Some of that might need to be cut away with the increase in costs since this plan was developed. So we would have to look at that even if the \$150,000 was granted and might to have cut some of that out just to get the doors opened; the primary reason is to put that ladder into service.

Mr. Scott stated to get familiarized with the process, if a pumper goes out with four firefighters are two drawn from Fire Station No. 9 to replace the ones that are on a run.

Mr. Maund responded that is based on the call, if four are going to Middleburg Hts. for a house fire where they need to supplement their staff, because remember, there is a requirement in 1710 being 14 men on a scene of a structure fire, single family house. That means all their six men will be there and maybe four from Berea would be there and then maybe four from Brook Park to fight one house fire in Middleburg Hts. In that instance, station no. 9 would come to over to the main house and re-establish jump-staffing for the pumper and the OIC (Officer in charge) that went to that house fire in another city would call back this is the real deal, we're here for a while and starts calling people in. At that point we have an emergency call list to call people in on overtime to backfill the fire station, to bring it up to a seven-man minimum. If that happens in Brook Park they are all going to that house fire and then dispatch knows to start calling in from the emergency call list to backfill any other call in the city with other surrounding departments; it's called mutual-aid locks of arm system.

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Mr. Scott clarified four firefighters go out and two come over and if the ladder truck is put in station no. nine. There is nobody to take it over there because the two men from that station are over here.

Mr. Maund responded correct, unless I drive the ladder over and backfill the station and the ladder remains outside until. There is still a possibility that the ladder could come over with those two men and be ready to respond with three men on. Very rarely, would a pumper be sent out with four guys to something in the city that is not an active fire or alarm. When they go to the fire those two are going in the ladder to the same location.

Mr. Scott stated going back to the budget requests, there is a new fire engine with an estimated cost of \$85,000.

Mr. Maund interjected that's a lease over ten years and that number was given to me from the finance director, the actual cost of a new fire engine is about \$750,000; a new ladder truck about \$1 million-dollars. We don't need a new ladder we have a ladder that happens to be a 2002 and can't use it where it's sitting. What we've agreed to and the previous administration understood that a new pumper was needed and get the specifications. We stayed under the \$750,000 and when approaching the new administration before finalization, even though the green light was there to make the purchase from the previous administration, we were asked to hold on that which we did. Before capital I requested three new firefighters to bring the department to 33; to have ten men per shift. The reason why is because and this goes to the \$425,000 budgeted overtime is that under the current contract. Three men can be off in any combination of their earned time but there are only nine guys per shift. Meaning everyday a man takes vacation, holiday, sick or compensation time there is going to be overtime; because we don't have the manning to support the contract.

Mr. Scott asked about the 15 replacement SCBA air bottles?

Mr. Maund responded air bottles have a shelf-life and when filling them up with 45 pounds of compressed air they swell microscopically leading to stress cracks; eventually they won't fill them anymore because they are too dangerous to operate in our hazardous environment. The department has 45 to 50 tanks to take to a fire and sometimes, we try not to do it, but frequently firefighters will use up an entire bottle and have to have another bottle placed on their back to go back into the fire. That's why so many bottles are needed to have bottles ready to be changed-out in ten seconds. 15 of the bottles are coming do so we would like to keep up with that amount in case needed for a big fire i.e. a warehouse. Or at NASA because some of the underground channels are unbelievably long to get to the fire itself and firefighters could be breathing air for ten minutes while walking to find the fire, it's imperative to have these replacement bottles.

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Mr. Scott asked about the Scott Sight Thermal Imaging Masks?

Mr. Maund responded as I told the Mayor to enhance our capabilities as firefighters, one of the things that Hollywood doesn't do justice, is showing firemen running around in fires where they can actually see. You can't see a thing, can't even see your hand in front of your face and you have to find the fire through thick acrid smoke. The only thing that works to find the differentials and temperature of victims and where the seed of the fire is a thermal imaging camera. Currently, they are bulky and usually handheld or small and on the vest; the department has a couple of those. Scott who also does our bottles and breathing apparatus developed a thermal imaging mask that is part of the firefighters. It's a head's up display in their mask so firefighters can see the hose lines, exits, victims and look out the normal lens to see if the smoke is clearing. For about \$40,000 I can put every man in the department in a thermal imaging mask reducing the possibility of a firefighter death and to quickly find a victim. A few years back fire crews saved two women on Engle Road and one of the things that probably slowed their finding of those victims immediately was the fact crews were crawling around and bumped into them and dragged them out. If the crews would have had thermal imaging masks they would have been able to see the victims immediately and pull them out.

Mr. Scott stated just so you understand I'm 110% for our men and want all the guys to know I appreciate everything that they've done and not trying to nitpick, just want to get the facts; safety is number one objective for all our safety forces.

Mr. Maund responded we understand that and appreciate that.

Mr. Salvatore thanked Chief Maund for coming and asked Mr. Cingle of the five requests of the fire chief which ones are on the proposed capital expenditure for this evening? I found the \$150,000 but don't see anything at \$85,000, I see a lease of \$172,000 is that the lease being talked about?

Mr. Cingle responded the \$150,000 is the amount that is proposed for this year for fire station number nine improvements, copier lease plus the leases that were entered into from previous years to equal \$172,000 and change.

Mr. Salvatore clarified this is condensed to talk about Station No. 9, correct?

Mr. Cingle concurred.

Mr. Salvatore remembers the \$124,000 for the proposed station on Snow Road and also remembers the apparatus to be parked at the Middleburg Hts. station to

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respond to the city's needs with Middleburg Hts. housing, maintaining and taking care of it. What did you think of that idea?

Mr. Maund responded the reason why a city has a ladder is to increase the ISO (Insurance Service Organization) numbers. By increasing that number, the city's businesses and homeowners' are able to get a better insurance rate. That's why a lot of these cities have a ladder because the ISO recognizes that piece of equipment can throw water from an elevated standpoint for a great defense of attack. They also take into consideration water, manning, dispatch, all things are taken into consideration but the ladder could drop your rating and increase the amount of money businesses and homeowners' pay in their premiums, it's a great tool and is different than a pumper. At that time, during the closure of the west-end station the department couldn't house all the equipment the department nor could the department man it. Also, at that time the Middleburg Hts. ladder truck was faltering and wouldn't be replaced right away. My thought and communication with Middleburg Hts. Fire Chief was Brook Park can't staff it and call Middleburg Hts. to be the ladder anyways and Middleburg Hts. needed a ladder to protect the hospital. Our city's ladder is tall enough to reach the upper decks of the hospital and the best solution at the time. Then when the citizens decided to keep the west-end fire station open there was no need to move the ladder.

Mr. Salvatore asked on an average, in the course of a year how many times does that vehicle go out?

Mr. Maund responded didn't know that answer and stated it goes on all the commercial alarms and there are a lot of commercial buildings that have faulty alarm systems that go off with the change in the weather. Also, the city's ladder truck goes to other cities or mutual aid.

Mr. Salvatore asked how many times does the ladder go out for house fires in the city?

Mr. Maund responded not, since I've been fire chief, not a house fire but to warehouse and that type of fire the answer is yes, i.e. the former Ponderosa on Snow Road.

Mr. Salvatore asked when a commercial call comes in does that call automatically go for mutual aid response?

Mr. Maund responded there are parameters in the city, NFPA 1710 recommends that auto-aid is done on alarm drops. The department doesn't do that because we realize that our partners to the south and west don't have the manpower to support response automatically on an alarm drop, because 99% of them are false

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alarms. What is set as a parameter is if multiple calls are received or have a police officer that sees smoke auto-aid is sent immediately.

Mr. Salvatore asked if the department's wish-list had to be prioritized what is the most important? In your opinion, would you rather see the thermal imaging mask or parking the ladder truck indoors?

Mr. Maund responded in my 23 years with the city and in the fire service for 35 years the department has enough thermal imaging cameras and have been saving lives all along and think it's a nice addition for the firefighters' safety and enhancement of our service. But, I would have to go with bumping the doors and bringing that apparatus into service as a front-line vehicle. By the way, the city's ladder, unlike ladders in the City of Cleveland has a 2,000 gallon a minute pump and can support pumper operations and relay water from a hydrant down the road to the pumper on the scene. Not to mention, early placement of that vehicle at a fire scene is best if the fire turns back on us and crews have to go defensive. If that ladder is up close to that fire ground crews can then put out a defensive fire and keep houses in the area safe from catching fire.

Mr. Salvatore stated within the \$150,000 request, in the \$124,000 several years ago you talked about other improvements besides the door? Will there be other improvements?

Mr. Maund responded I don't know, I have a list that breaks down the costs and some it may will not be able to be but the glass block was \$8,000, masonry work is \$24,000, doors themselves are \$21,000; some of the stuff like the toilet partition and painting possibly could be done by the city's service department even if it needs to be done at this point. Certainly, the priority would be and my judgement and advice to the Mayor is to bring that ladder up to front-line use, instead of a parade vehicle or for everyone else's fire.

Mr. Salvatore asked parking the ladder inside will increase the usage?

Mr. Maund responded parking the ladder on the west-end, instead of the pumper, the ladder has pumper capabilities. Two men can get in the ladder, for instance, people ask me how are you going to respond that ladder with the conveyance of at least three guys? This isn't about the conveyance it's about when the team assembles on the fire. So one guy is sent to Berea in the chase vehicle and the two guys on the ladder when they get to the fire they are a ladder company; three men minimum, four men recommended, three men minimum. It's not the conveyance it's the tool and the men that man that tool.

Mr. Vecchio asked who are the mutual-aid cities with the City of Brook Park?

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Mr. Maund responded the mutual-aid cities are Middleburg Hts., Parma, Berea, Parma Hts.; that's the first range. Then there's Brooklyn, Olmsted Falls, Olmsted Township, Strongsville, North Royalton and continues going out in ranges and layers; depending on the call of what is needed. The warehouse fire in Brooklyn Hts. had 13 ladders pouring in on that warehouse and took over a day to put that fire out. There were communities from all over and across the bridge from the east side to fill that box; boxes are filled based on the severity of the call. As the OIC gets on the scene and sees that it's a real working fire it starts out as a one-box alarm, first the City of Brook Park and then next box is the first layer. If the fire worsens or firefighters get trapped another alarm is sounded. What we try not to do is completely decimate the city next door, i.e. Berea only having six men and have man a truck to assist in a fire that leaves three guys left; crews can be tied up at a house fire for six to eight hours. Every mutual-aid partner has that in mind to not decimate the city next door.

Mr. Vecchio asked in the mutual-aid participation is the airport not involved in that?

Mr. Maund responded is involved in that and is our biggest home supplier if needed.

Mr. Vecchio continued regarding the raising of the doors at station no. 9 for the parking of the ladder and as you pointed out NASA being the main area over there. Does the airport have direct access into NASA through the gates?

Mr. Maund responded no, they do not any longer, the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) prohibits under costs to runway, like they used to. So they have to enter into the normal gate and that takes them longer than the west-end station if able to gain entrance from the west end. They do have structural firefighting capabilities over there, however, they are under a different mandate by the federal government limiting the amount of people that can leave the reservation, those men have to be on that site no matter what. So depending on the daily manning is how many they can commit to help the City of Brook Park with a fire. Currently, there is no auto-aid with the City of Brook Park or NASA to go in on a fire unless Brook Park requests them. Unless it involves NASA's hangar then they can cross the field and fight the airplane fire on airport ground.

Mr. Vecchio asked how many fire calls is Brook Park averaging?

Mr. Maund responded those numbers are listed in the annual reports of how many fires the city had every year, I don't put how many calls for fire, I put actual fires from dumpster, cars, whatever.

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Mr. Mencini thanked Chief Maund for coming and complimented the firefighters on doing a great job; in 2014 I did the ride along with the fire crews which was a great experience. Following up on Mr. Vecchio's question between NASA and the airport do the airport paramedics serve the same purpose at NASA or just fire?

Mr. Maund responded the only time paramedics come from NASA is when Brook Park requests them, there is no automatic response to NASA with fire service; Brook Park has the entire reservation.

Mr. Mencini stated Brook Park doesn't use the paramedics for mutual-aid?

Mr. Maund responded Brook Park has when there is a house fire, depending on what side of town, they will come with either a pumper or squad.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Maund to elaborate on the chase vehicle and asked is that was mentioned is that common or just something that Brook Park does?

Mr. Maund responded the chase vehicle is a wonderful tool brought forward by my predecessor, Chief Ramach, and I agreed to maximize the efficiency of the department's response with minimal manpower. The national standard is that you have three paramedics working a very serious call; crews don't know what that call is going to be until arriving at the scene to evaluate a patient. Utilizing the chase vehicle, I get three men and 85% of all the department calls to determine if needed. The person in the chase vehicle will help with starting IV's, giving medications, stabilizing the patient and assist with loading the patient into the ambulance; that frees up that guy in that chase vehicle to go respond to another emergency or come back to the station to man the fire apparatus. By the way, the chase vehicle has all the paramedic gear needed so that person in the chase vehicle can respond to a call even if all six men are out; the seventh man can get into the chase vehicle and save a life and it's happened and documented, especially with the opioid crisis. The chase vehicle is a valuable tool and very versatile and is being used and recently adopted by Middleburg Hts.

Mr. Mencini commented that happened as the first call on my ride along with a call on Carol. With as many calls as the crews go and population not being what it used to be. Do you see a need for more firefighters? Do the calls counter that since the department are getting many calls?

Mr. Maund responded in 2013 there were 2,600 runs with 34 men, 2017 there were 3,477 runs with 30 men. So what I've told the Mayor is that in order to staff two stations the department, is at a tipping point, can't go below seven and handle that call volume without starting to use more mutual-aid with other communities. Currently, the department is holding fast to the tune of \$427,000 in overtime.

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Mr. Mencini asked if mutual-aid is more prevalent in 2018 than in let's say 2013, 2014 and so forth?

Mr. Maund responded years ago the department had a nine-man contractual minimum and occasionally there would be ten or eleven and Brook Park crews would handle a house fire themselves, without assistance from other communities. In my career I've seen the development, necessity and now everyday use of the mutual-aid box alarm system.

Mr. Burgio thanked Mr. Maund for coming out and stated you did a great job with answering questions and explanations. One of my questions was about the \$150,000 for the door that I remember appropriating a few years back, even though it wasn't done. What you're saying is the cost being asked for is covering some of the same things requested then?

Mr. Maund responded I don't know that for a fact, that was an estimate, that I conjured up not having any professional help. And, realized that there were some issues in that original plan that could be cut to get those doors expanded. By the way, having those doors expanded would free up the department's availability to move some equipment that is currently being stored at the service garage i.e. 1986 backup pumper that crews have to drain the pump and is very limited with equipment and terrible pump capabilities and only used as a backup, there is no place to house it. Moving the ladder to the west end station we could get rid of that pumper and bring the pumper from the west end station to the Holland Road station for the backup. Modern firefighting equipment has become bigger and taller because everything has to be on that truck. They're not pumpers they are now rescue pumpers, they're not just ladders they are rescue ladders and become bigger, bulkier and carry every imaginable thing on them.

Mr. Burgio stated you mentioned that most cities prefer to have a ladder truck due to insurance reasons. Do most cities have a ladder truck in the surrounding areas?

Mr. Maund responded yes, most of them do.

Mr. Burgio asked if the Cleveland Hopkins has a ladder truck?

Mr. Maund responded I believe they have a snorkel which is not quite a ladder truck and what it does is allow for an elevated stream but cannot rescue people, I haven't spoken with the interim chief.

Mr. Burgio stated if there is a fire at NASA or the airport Brook Park Fire would go and help them.

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Mr. Maund concurred and stated they would come and help us at NASA, we're responsible for the whole NASA property, not the airport.

Mr. Burgio stated Cleveland would...

Mr. Maund interjected as mutual-aid to us, we don't have an MOU (Memo of Understanding) with them but they will come if called.

Mr. Poindexter thanked Chief Maund for coming and asked is there a cost difference to operate the ladder compared to the pumper?

Mr. Maund responded no, they are comparable.

Mr. Poindexter asked when you go on runs is there and insurance charge to the patient?

Mr. Maund responded currently, the department does not charge for fire suppression, it's something that I have not breached the new administration with, to charge residents for going to a fire or charge their insurance for that. There are some avenues for recouping some funds definitely for hazard materials spills and such but we do not currently bill our citizens or businesses for fire responses.

Mr. Poindexter you mentioned if the renovations are done at station no. 9 and put the ladder truck there we can get rid of the backup pumper.

Mr. Maund interjected that pumper at station no. 9 come over to the main house and become the backup pumper.

Mr. Poindexter asked if there is any buyout for that backup pumper?

Mr. Maund responded maybe \$4,000, it's a 1986 model, and could possibly be used at a volunteer department or as a collector item.

Mr. Maund thanked the everyone for the invitation this evening and stated it's the first time I have ever been questioned in front of Council. Any questions are welcomed at any time the fire department has complete transparency and you, as citizens, own the equipment with crews providing the care.

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Scott Adams
Economic Development Commissioner
6161 Engle Road

Mr. Adams appreciates the opportunity to come before the body to speak on issues involving economic development.

Mr. Orcutt thanked Mr. Adams for coming this evening, on the sheet the Mayor provided to Council. Would you please give details on the first-line item - Professional Services in the amount of \$75,000?

Mr. Adams responded Professional Services would provide any outside possible use of attorneys, engineers or brokers that may be involved with business transactions for the Economic Development department.

Mr. Orcutt questioned the Construction Contract line item in the amount of \$495,000?

Mr. Adams responded the original thought-process was, when coming into the position in January-February and have been in the position for 49 interesting days. What was determined was to see if a Sidewalk Program was going to be repeated this year. The returning Councilmembers did a wonderful job on an extensive sidewalk program last year so the determination was made that type of project would not be needed this year; that was forgone at an approximate cost of \$495,000.

Mr. Orcutt stated the current total balance for this year is \$600,000?

Mr. Adams responded that would be some encumbered involved, the actual balance allocation is in the \$365,000 area; \$385,500 total.

Mr. Orcutt questioned if the HMAP (Home Maintenance Assistance Program) is included in there?

Mr. Adams concurred and stated the economic challenges this Council is the necessary dollars for the Roads Program. That program has been reduced to \$50,000 and will serve ten residents at \$5,000 each; there are already six individuals interested in those funds from last year.

Mr. Vecchio asked Mr. Adams for a copy of the economic development changes for Council to follow along with.

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Mr. Salvatore stated with the economic development requests in that \$600,000 will that \$75,000 appear under Professional Services or is that out?

Mr. Adams responded that would be included and the final number is \$388,5000 and included in that number.

Mr. Salvatore continued in the Repair Maintenance would that be in there?

Mr. Cingle concurred and shows on page 11 of the three-year disbursements and appropriations not being appropriated for this year.

Mr. Salvatore questioned Travel & Education.

Mr. Cingle responded \$3,500 shows in there.

Mr. Salvatore questioned the legal advertising?

Mr. Adams stated the \$1,500 was removed.

Mr. Salvatore questioned Tools & Minor Equipment?

Mr. Adams responded \$250.00 of that was removed.

Mr. Salvatore clarified that contracts were reduced?

Mr. Adams concurred and stated to \$365,000.

Mr. Salvatore questioned the Construction contract for \$495,000.

Mr. Adams responded that's been removed.

Mr. Salvatore questioned Refunds?

Mr. Adams stated that was removed.

Mr. Salvatore stated now we're talking \$38,500.

Mr. Vecchio stated we're down to \$20,000 for Professional Services for attorneys, brokers and engineers.

Mr. Adams responded they could be charged out of that account. It could also be for instance, when we begin working on a professional model for sale in the City of Brook Park; being a professional service providing service to the economic

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development department, to bring forth to the Council and Administration. Also, working with possible purchasers.

Mr. Vecchio asked what is the breakdown of the contracts for \$365,000, that is the one thing Council does not have.

Mr. Adams responded that would be the senior services, grass-cutting and snow removal, in the amount of \$200,000. Secondly, would be the grants and HMAP Program in the amount of \$160,000 that has been reduced by \$30,000 for the Ques Industries grant Council authorized; total for this program is \$130,000. Taking the \$50,000 out of the \$130,000 that leave \$80,000 for grant purposes for retention and expansion of city businesses currently in the city. The property tax for real estate parcels that has to be paid in the amount of \$5,000, that rounds that sum to \$365,000.

Mr. Burgio stated not sure if this falls under Professional Services but thinks we need to do some promoting and marketing of the city, even though the budget is tight, because this city has so much to offer with the airport, freeways and being 10 minutes from Downtown, Cleveland. Is there any room for marketing and promoting anywhere in this budget? Or do you have plans on doing that?

Mr. Adams responded that's part of what I do on a daily basis through networking and meeting with other cities Economic Development Directors. Also, we have become involved with the Aerospace Alliance that puts us in touch with not only the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and surrounding suburbs to work as a joint taskforce to bring business to the Tech Park area. The Mayor has asked me to prepare a lengthy report for Council for later in the month and one of the items in that report is what is called 'Opportunity Zone'. When then candidate Trump promised to bring back \$6 or \$7 trillion dollars from overseas; the now President Trump has put into his new tax bill, passed in December. Part of the way those funds are being brought back is through reduced or zero (0) tax on capital gains for corporations, banks and wealthy individuals, which created what are known 'Opportunity Zones'. Each governor was challenged to create a number of zones which will be approved in the next 20 days by the Department of Treasury. Brook Park applied for two, the state as a whole applied for 790, and I'm here to say Brook Park received one. That one encompasses the entire area where the Space Tech Park all the way to Foseco and down the west side of Eastland Road. What that will allow for and we're still waiting for the rules but through the research we were able to do. The first five years that an individual says he wants to invest \$1 million-dollars from his profits from his corporation into that zone. For instance, that individual wants to be involved with development of a building or purchasing property the city currently owns on the west end. Let's say this individual invests \$2 million-dollars for that property and then enlists a commercial builder to put up

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a three-story office building. At that point, the property now has evaluation of approximately \$5 million-dollars because of the improvement and cost of the land. This investor brings in the \$2 million-dollars to purchase the land and keeps it there for five years and then sells out the investor will owe five-percent (5%) to the federal government in capital gains taxes. If the investor keeps it there for a ten-year investment, he owes zero (0). After that ten years the investor goes to sell the property plus the gain the city now has a \$5 million-dollar building on the land. Let's say the investor sells the building fully rented out for \$8 million dollars, that \$3 million-dollar gain is tax-free. One of the researchers from the institute give a simple solution to low-income areas, this is all based on Census data, more details are to follow. The other zone the city asked for was the in the center of the city by Holy Cross to the main retail district, the city didn't get this because it didn't have a major area next to it such as an airport. So what we're looking at is a possibility of \$6.1 trillion-dollars of new investment to take place over the next 24 months in the United States; Brook Park is one of the lucky few in Ohio to have the ability through that Opportunity Zone. The city is still waiting for the certification and when all the information is made available it will be brought forward to Council, that's one of the programs. What is being done to promote the city is basically on an individual level but part of that professional services could be used for that.

Mr. Mencini thanked Mr. Adams for coming, going back on Professional Services for \$20,000 and the promotion of the city. Are we doing anything in the aspect of advertising in the Plain Dealer to promote Brook Park or is there any plans like that to promote the city?

Mr. Adams responded I met with the Dean of the IT Department for Baldwin-Wallace College and am looking to engage interns to help set up an IT Program both email and social media, on the very low cost end; use some of those dollars for advertising if necessary. After that meeting I'm sure we can put together this program to be used in a lot of different ways, not just advertising for economic development but for informing the public and will be bringing that project forward.

Mr. Mencini stated with the Contracts you mentioned the grass and snow programs at \$200,000, will that be done the same as last year?

Mr. Adams responded to the best of my knowledge yes, but we're going to vet the applicants (providers) a little better.

Mr. Mencini continued with the HMAP there are six individuals, are they potential applicants or qualified applicants?

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Adams responded after review all six applicants qualify for the program. There was some question on the seventh applicant who is a three-time wounded veteran who lives in the city and needs to provide income information.

Mr. Mencini asked if there is any substantial on the grants?

Mr. Adams responded yes, part of the problem that Council is wrestling with and commended Council on the hard work with the Recreation Center/Administration Building. Upon reviewing of the \$5.2 million-dollar contract for the Recreation Center funds are not available for demolition of the City Hall and Council Chambers buildings that is a requirement of that contract. One of the most unbelievable phone calls I ever had to make was getting a quote to demolish these two buildings. We're gathering the quotes and I'm working with the Opportunity Zone and kudos to Dale Miller, Cuyahoga County Councilman and Armond Budish, Cuyahoga County Executive and his team who stood tall with the city on that. On this project the city will be asking for \$200,000 demolition grant with the hope of not using all those dollars and have those additional dollars available. The other grant brought forward by Mr. Scott is for the SRO with the police department is heading and I've offered assistance. The city has received notice from NOACA (Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency) that a \$65,000 energy grant will be coming to the city; the city is also in line for grants for next year. A lot of the grant programs through the county had to be filed by December 17th and upon review grant applications for Brook Park were not granted. So, at this point, there's still upfront monies available for the beautification there are funds available and for roads there are funds available. It's not the usual CBDG (Community Block Development Grant) Program. In speaking with Ted Carter who is the head of Development for Cuyahoga County and Cuyahoga County Economic Development Director who explained that they are not doing dollar-for-dollar because like so many agencies in the United States that are going through cuts. They lost \$27 million-dollars in Medicare funding which has to be shifted through other devices and unfortunately, one being the CBDG Program; so they are offering assistance in a variety of ways. We're also actively pursuing those ways and at the same token looking to get some crack-sealing material. Research by Engineer Piatak and Service Director Garner found out it's about 35% of the overall costs for crack-sealing; a grant request is being put in for \$200,000 for crack-sealing. The city is hoping to realize some of those monies this year, I'm waiting for the Department of Public Works to get back to me if that's available for this year. If it Cuyahoga County Councilman Miller assured that Brook Park will get what is asked for, if not 2019 is right around the corner. Those are some of the local grants that the city is looking at and are also working on some side grants, for instance, Ford has a grant up to \$100,000 for designated purpose. The city is working along those lines to achieve those needs.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Randy Garner
Service Director
19065 Holland Road

Mr. Vecchio stated with the Senior Bus the major issue is the lift?

Mr. Garner responded the floor is rotted-out and replaced with panels to get the bus into some kind of shape; the lift is outdated no part are available.

Mr. Vecchio stated one of the mechanics are certified through broad-mobility or one other one.

Mr. Garner responded absolutely, John Pensis has told me where the city is at with the senior bus.

Mr. Vecchio asked if the city did the city get a price as to what it would cost to replace the lift itself, versus replacing that unit?

Mr. Garner responded I'm not sure if he has, I'm sure he has, but there are other parts of the vehicle that are deteriorating beyond repair.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Mr. Cingle, based on the capital improvements how many are these are on the proposed capital improvements expenditures?

Mr. Cingle responded the leases were from previous years, so the rear-loader lease in Sanitation at \$45,000 and also the pump station and permits in Sewer & Drains at \$100,000. The Vactor lease was entered into last year and is a seven-year lease and the new rubbish trucks purchased last year is a seven-year lease.

Mr. Salvatore asked if the city owns the vehicles at the end of the lease?

Mr. Cingle concurred.

Mr. Salvatore asked how many of the wish-list items made it to the proposed capital improvements? What items don't have to be talked about?

Mr. Garner responded the only item removed was a dump truck and salt truck combination in the amount of \$165,000 and some dollar amounts on tools and minor equipment.

Mr. Cingle stated commented that \$20,000 for snow blades were included in the snow line item and in the Mechanics line item in Miscellaneous Equipment/Tools in

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

the amount of \$10,000 were included for the mechanics and part of the service department's wish list and part of the proposed appropriations.

Mr. Salvatore asked with the Fry Road Pump Station in the amount of \$100,000 can you explain what exactly is in disrepair and is it still functional?

Mr. Garner responded the three major pumps that are in that facility have been in place since 1980 or 1981 and have been rebuilt and worked on and are now obsolete. They are being proposed to be replaced with three larger horsepower pumps to handle the capacity and all the equipment that goes with it.

Mr. Salvatore stated over the years they've been repaired and functional?

Mr. Garner concurred.

Mr. Salvatore asked if the quote of \$100,000 is an accurate number?

Mr. Garner responded the cost was \$99,670.00, \$100,000 rounded-off.

Mr. Burgio stated to Mr. Garner at the bottom of the page, the two bodies for the rubbish trucks that are rusted and obsolete. Does that mean the drivetrain and everything else is in good shape? Mr. Burgio also asked if there is a lot of mileage on those vehicles?

Mr. Garner responded the trucks average 20 years-old, I think one is 34 years-old, and chose not to do that if a new truck was added to the fleet; they were \$85,000 per truck for a total of \$160,000 each; these are hoppers and bodies being placed on existing frames.

Mr. Mencini stated to Mr. Garner, are those trucks the original old ones or is this numbers 41 and 43 the city received in early 2000?

Mr. Garner responded in 2003.

Mark Elliott
Recreation Director
17400 Holland Road

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mr. Elliott, the first item on the wish list - Kennedy Park Improvements have been removed in the amount of \$75,000. Mr. Vecchio asked for an explanation on what is being looked at to do in the amount of \$15,000, these improvements were not included in the Recreation Center Energy Project

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

and the need to renovate the kitchen is necessary. When we did the walk-thru I told you what my feelings were.

Mr. Elliott in all due respect we would agree to disagree, I believe it's very important. After talking with the staff and community groups this area is used a lot and especially with being renovated. I've heard several times with City Council how is the community being promoted and with the community room being renovated. Will automatically promote the city and think it will certainly increase the usage of the recreation center with community groups and organizations; i.e. Beautification, Brook Park Chamber of Commerce luncheons, birthday parties, etc. People do have events catered but there are also a number of people that bring their own food and need a kitchen area to serve; the Senior Group uses the kitchen every Tuesday. There will be renovated offices and the community room so for that area not to be renovated I think would be bad judgement on our part.

Mr. Vecchio stated Mr. Cingle mentioned the Special Recreation Fund 250 that has over half-million dollars that is used for special programs and so forth. With the Concession/Game Room area in the amount of \$15,000 what is your plan?

Mr. Elliott asked to go down the list in order to explain the items in detail. With the kitchen a quote has been received and it is not an inflated number. The third item being the Front Desk Renovations or registration area, when people come into the building that area is weathered and old and needs replacement. That area could be configured with a work area for more efficiency to serve people; that area was not included in the project. Recently, there has been a commitment with some assistance from Councilman Scott that they weren't going to replace some of the ceiling tiles but that is going to be updated, service crews can do some of the painting, those are all the different things to be included for that area. In the concession/game room area there have been talks about increasing space for the children and are going to try and take advantage of that with the concession area. As you recall, the game room used to be in the basement and Bridges is down there currently. So what we want to do with the concession area counters being very large I don't think they need to be that large; so that would be reduced. I have received a quote from one company and the service director is getting prices from a Brook Park company to make that area smaller but still serviceable for any event that wants to use that area. The Concession/Game Room area along with the Community Room could be rented out. With the concession stand area seating and tables could be increased due to the reconfiguration of coming out at 90-degree angle, be parallel and go more against the wall. The other half of the room would be used as a game room and in talking with the staff to prepare some ideas and met with library personnel. For instance, they have a WII, a screen and couches over there for educational type games to be played. There are a group of

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

old-timers that still play pool in the basement and I would like to bring the tables upstairs. The recreation center staff is younger and I'm leaning on them to talk to the children to see what they would like. That area would be repainted and the vending machines would be moved out of that area where they are located and tuck them in a corner. My hope is to have the Game Room and Concession area separated by a gate that can be locked when not being used. This week was spring break and Danny Colonna and Amanda Morgano did a great job putting a Spring Break Olympics program together on a daily basis, that the children had a great time and the whole building was utilized. The next item listed is the movie projector and screen and there are some items that are important and some not so much. The biggest three items I feel strongly about is the Concession/Game Room area, front desk area and community room; those are areas that I think we really need to work on. There is an outside group the staff will be dealing this summer, some have already volunteered, who has equipment to show movies and outdoor programs. That is something we would like to utilize but if those monies are reduced we certainly understand. Item number six are the CAT controllers that are important for the whirlpools and outdoor waterpark and are a necessity. Number seven for the ballparks is certainly something that is not needed. The last item is storage shelving would go on the old stage of the community room. Through Cuyahoga County shelving was donated so there is no need for purchase.

Mr. Stemm stated to Mr. Elliott, with the concession room is there going to be a reduction in counter space? If so, is it possible to recycle that to the new kitchen area by the community room?

Mr. Elliott responded probably not because of the size of the counter, we will see what we can do with that. We are going to try to see if we can salvage that but think with the costs it may not be necessary to utilize that way.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Mr. Elliott, all the items entertained are in the budget, correct?

Mr. Elliott concurred.

Mr. Salvatore continued with the portable home-run fence the center has one currently, correct?

Mr. Elliott responded that is not needed and being removed.

Mr. Salvatore stated the old game room in the basement there were five or six pool tables?

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Elliott interjected currently, there are probably two. There was a couple of Foosball tables that could probably be utilized.

Mr. Salvatore clarified will the two pool tables and Foosball table fit into the proposed game room?

Mr. Elliott responded at least one of the pool tables.

Mr. Salvatore asked what if the space downstairs was recaptured and put back to where it was originally.

Mr. Elliott responded I would prefer not to address some of those things and talk about that at a later time.

Mr. Salvatore agreed with Mr. Elliott on the kitchen improvements. Have we explored the possibility of having some or all the work done in-house with purchasing the cabinets, etc. and having service department crews do the work?

Mr. Elliott responded we will do that and when speaking with companies there are some things that are considered demos', nice items never used except for a demonstration type situation. I will be very conscious with trying to do that as well as can be with costs in mind. The service department is getting into a busy season and as the fire and police chiefs spoke about manpower, manpower is important with the service department and if crews can be utilized we'll use them but, if not, we'll stay within those dollars.

Mr. Burgio stated he doesn't think \$15,000 is out of line for the kitchen renovation besides the new counters, cabinets and appliances. Is there anything else with those improvements such as flooring, walls or ceiling for renovation?

Mr. Elliott responded the area will be repainted and retiled that the staff can do.

Mr. Burgio commented he thinks that is worthwhile because the area is visible and is used. With the movie projector and screen how many times has that been used?

Mr. Elliott responded in the course of the summer it's been used about three times. We have borrowed it from a couple of cities and a church so probably five or six times in the summer and used more throughout the year. It's primarily used in the summer months but can be used year-round within the building so that number could be increased.

Mr. Burgio complimented Mr. Elliott for finding the donated shelving.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Vecchio stated with the projector obviously with the community room renovations there will be a projector screen in the new area?

Mr. Elliott clarified in the new Council section there will be video screens on the wall.

Mr. Vecchio stated that would be able to be utilized to offset that also? This is the blowup screen used last year?

Mr. Elliott concurred.

Mr. Orcutt asked Mr. Vecchio if his question about Fund 250 - Special Recreation Fund answered?

Mr. Vecchio responded no, it was not.

Mr. Orcutt continued asked Mr. Cingle could the total revenue in Fund 250 be used for upgrades.

Mr. Cingle responded the monies that go into Fund 250 - Special Recreation Fund come from the programs. So any expenditures I think the movie projector could be expensed out of Fund 250. Any equipment that would relate to a program can be expensed out of Fund 250; not the building renovations.

Mr. Scott stated to Mr. Cingle, can items two, three and four of the Recreation Center wish list come out of Fund 401, line item 700 - Government Buildings and Lands?

Mr. Cingle clarified that would be the Community Room Kitchen, Front Desk/Registration area and the Concession/Game Room equipment?

Mr. Scott concurred.

Mr. Cingle stated the first two items, community room kitchen and front desk registration, could come out of Fund 401, line item 700. Mr. Cingle reminded Council that there is a large Roads Program for 2019 of \$2.3 million-dollars that is the city's obligation. So the thought was to be conservative in expenditures this year with the hopes to be able to carry forward monies next year to limit the borrowing that may be needed in 2019. Moving into the community center there still maybe some other items that may need to be addressed once we move in there; those dollars in line item 700 would be utilized as part of the update to the community center.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Scott continued with the \$110,00 for the vestibule is coming out of Fund 401, line item 700?

Mr. Cingle concurred.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mr. Cingle, Fund 401, line item 700 has been reduced by \$110,000 leaving a total of \$278,000?

Mr. Cingle concurred.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Mr. Cingle, what is the total expenditures for Recreation?

Mr. Cingle responded on page 14 of the three-year disbursements of the Appropriations shows a little more than \$67,000.

Mr. Salvatore stated using that \$67,000 can those monies be drawn from Fund 250?

Mr. Cingle responded for Fund 250 out of the proposal the game room equipment and movie projector and screen would be able to be expensed out of Fund 250.

Mr. Salvatore asked out of that \$67,000 how much can be moved?

Mr. Cingle responded it's my understanding, the movie projector is not in the proposed appropriations. So whatever that cost is for that game room equipment it's part of the \$15,000, the whole \$15,000 or a portion of \$15,000. There are improvements also within there so the maximum would be \$15,000?

Mr. Salvatore asked about the kitchen?

Mr. Cingle responded that's an improvement to the building and cannot be expensed out of Fund 250.

Mr. Salvatore clarified if we wanted to put the projector in there it could be taken from that fund.

Mr. Cingle concurred the movie projector can be expensed out of Fund 250.

Mr. Salvatore asked about the portable fence?

Mr. Cingle responded yes.

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions: cont.

Mr. Vecchio stated Ordinance No. 11017-2018 has had its Second Reading.

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, Stemm, Orcutt, Burgio, Scott
NAY: None. The motion carried.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 10:35 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.