

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Vecchio at 7:30 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 Mayor Gammella, Law Director Horvath, Service Director Garner, Recreation Director Elliott, Economic Development Commissioner Adams, Finance Director Cingle and Engineer Piatak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. Caucus Prior to Council meeting held on March 20, 2018.

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

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

2. Regular Council meeting held on March 20, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Scott, to approve as printed.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to go out of the Regular Order of Business to letter G.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

The clerk read the Proclamation in its entirety honoring Nicole Zaptocky as 2018 Miss Poppy.

Mayor Gammella presented the proclamation to Ms. Zaptocky and congratulated her as being chosen Miss Poppy.

Ms. Zaptocky introduced her mother, father, brother and grandmother in the audience.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Burgio, to go back to the Regular Order of Business to letter D.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Aviation & Environmental Committee – Chairman, Poindexter

Mr. Poindexter stated no report this evening.

Finance Committee – Chairman, Scott

Mr. Scott stated Finance Committee has nothing on the agenda but the Board of Control met earlier and approved 20 items.

Legislative Committee – Chairman, Mencini

Mr. Mencini stated Legislative Committee has nothing on the agenda, if any legislation is to be pulled out of committee let him know.

Parks & Recreation Committee – Chairman, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore announced that on Saturday, April 14th the Brook Park Seniors will be having their tenth annual Tea & Fashion Show at the Recreation Center mini-gym. The weekend of April 20th – 22nd the Cleveland Golden Globes Boxing event will be held at the Recreation Center gymnasium. There will be a Baseball and Softball league meeting held later this month. The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m., open to the public. Mr. Salvatore stated he was hoping to have the Capital Improvements on the Caucus prior to and hopes to have a meeting later this week. Mr. Salvatore stated a few items that Recreation Director Elliott asked for on his original wish list and were removed and as Chairman of Recreation, I would like to see these items put back in. The first one was a portable fence for \$1,600, which makes sense, since most of the games will be played at Kennedy Field. The city has one portable fence and should have another fence to be used at other fields. The money for the fence can be taken out of Fund 250 – Special Recreation Fund. The second item would be the movie projector and screen for \$10,000 and looking at the sports events. I've always wanted to have the ability to be able to tape a championship game and invite everyone to the Recreation Center to watch that game. Recreation Director Elliott will be looking at prices for this item and would really like for Council to reconsider putting that back in. The monies for the projector and screen can also be taken out of Fund 250 – Special Recreation Fund.

Planning Committee – Chairman, Burgio

Mr. Burgio stated at last night's Planning meeting four items came before the commission. One was a tabled item that the commission voted to move to the May agenda. Also, there was a request for approval for a lot consolidation and lot split for a parcel on West 149th Street that the commission approved unanimously. A request for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a parking facility at 15541 Brookpark Road was denied. Lastly, there was a request to rezone and construct a 6,000 sq. ft. retail/commercial building was denied unanimously.

Safety Committee – Chairman, Stemm

Mr. Stemm stated on April 23rd at 7:00 p.m. the Brook Park Neighborhood Watch is having a Human Trafficking Awareness meeting at the Brook Park Library.

Service Committee – Chairman, Orcutt

Mr. Orcutt stated Monday, April 9th is Bulk Pickup Day, please contact the Service garage at 216-433-7189 before noon this coming Friday, to get on the list. Also, starting Monday, April 9th residents' will be able to drop off yard waste at the service garage from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; on Saturdays the hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Mr. Orcutt reminded everybody about the Shred-it

Reports from Standing Committees: cont.

Day to be held on April 14th at the Brook Park Service garage from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Orcutt was hoping to speak on the Capital Improvements budget at the Caucus prior to meeting and stated there are only four items for the Service Department. One being the big-ticket item for upgrading of the early 1980 pump station at Fry and Hummel Roads.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Chairman, Scott

Mr. Scott stated the Board of Zoning met last evening with one item of new business for a request a variance to create two legal non-conforming lots for a lot consolidation and lot split for new construction at 5211 West 149th Street; the commission approved unanimously. There was also a tabled item to request a variance for installation of a new billboard at 4985 West 150th Street, Rock N Roll City Harley Davidson that was placed on the May 7th agenda.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Southwest General Health Center – Trustee, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore reported the health center is celebrating the graduation of the first class of patient care associates who successfully completed to become STNA (State Tested Nursing Assistant) certified; this program is in partnership with Corporate College a division of Cuyahoga Community College. Preparation is underway for the center’s patient experience celebration for this month. The center celebrated ‘Safety Week’ in March that included a summary of many external recognitions received for providing high quality safe patient care. The center’s efforts continue to recruit new physicians to the hospital, which is important for replacement when physicians retire. With the center’s capital budget \$6.8 million dollars has been committed of \$25 million dollars in expenditures on approval of projects i.e. Breast Cancer expansion, the Opioid Behavioral health services as well as renovation and expansion of that building.

Berea Board of Education Committee – McDonnell & Poindexter.

Mr. Poindexter stated the school board meeting is being held tonight and Ms. McDonnell will give a report next Council meeting.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION:

1. A PROCLAMATION HONORING ‘MISS POPPY 2018’ NICOLE ZAPTOCKY

Note: Moved by motion to the beginning of the meeting.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Gammella thanked everyone in the city and most importantly Recreation Director Elliott and his staff with the Easter Egg Hunt being a big success, good job. Mayor Gammella thanked Mr. Orcutt's daughter for her assistance and fine job in getting the eggs out and appreciate that. Mayor Gammella thanked the commission members in attendance and everyone for what they did for the Easter Egg Hunt. Economic Development Commissioner Adams will be making a presentation to Council on the 'Opportunity Zone'. There are only a few granted through the State of Ohio and Brook Park now has an 'Opportunity Zone' at Aerospace Parkway area for development. We tried for the Ford property but was unsuccessful in that. At the last Council meeting, I was meeting with top-level Ford officials and that's going to be a tough nut to crack; Ford has that property and the city has to get something there. I had what I will say fruitful discussions, and think them knowing me is a major plus for the city. However, there is some ways to go on that property but I'm constantly pushing and when I was the Local Union President I was successful in getting the 4-cylinder that everyone said was impossible and we were successful. I'm going to do it the same way here that I did then is keep trying. In talking with many Councilmembers' I have your support and appreciate that because I'm going to need that support. That parcel is going to be the key and the heart for any economic development for this city. On the budget, a special Caucus meeting will be called for this Thursday, April 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Questions:

Mr. Orcutt asked with the Ford property were you talking about getting something there with Ford or they will give up some of that land for the city?

Mayor Gammella responded that's still up in the air, obviously, I'd like nothing but Ford, they've been a great corporate citizen and good taxpayer. But, if Ford is not going to put something we have to be prepared to move on and they will work with us on that. They could keep that property locked up for an extended period of time if they choose, I believe they will work with the City of Brook Park and am hopeful that we can get something there from the Ford Motor Company.

Mr. Orcutt continued with that land, the last Administration had a hard time getting some of that land and looks like when you were in Michigan the week of March 20th. That was unsuccessful as well for Ford giving up some land. Is there anything that can be done legally that has been looked into to grab that land back, not sure if it's possible?

Mayor Gammella responded I wouldn't say it was unsuccessful we have an understanding, again, they own the property. Could a projected lawsuit be done against Ford; I guess we probably could. But, I don't think that would be fruitful and think what's best is to work with them; to see what they're going to do with that property. If they're not going to do anything with that property with Ford Motor it could be a subsidy of Ford; they could put Ford Land there or other things, Ford is a very big corporation. Again, it's absolutely important that property is developed one way or another and Ford will be a piece of that property as owners of the property.

Reports and Communications from the Mayor:

Questions: cont.

Mr. Mencini commented about Ford, whether the city gets something or not, it's whatever advantages the city gets will be further down the road, as you said for the future. The former Mayor said that it should be up to Ford to clean up that property and that will probably be a tough one. We have some issues now and is there anything your administration is looking at now to address city problems i.e. streets, etc.

Mayor Gammella responded these problems didn't arise over the last 88 days, but we are very aggressively going after new work, especially on the Opportunity Zone, Ford Property and throughout the city. We have had meetings with numerous people and a company with about 50 people relocating on Henry Ford Boulevard will brought forward to Council, this is an ongoing struggle. The economy today, for example, in Ford Plant No. 1 is at full capacity with 1,500 people, in 1978 there were 5,500 people needed to run that plant. Even though the work and corporations are brought in bringing in the people and taxpayers is not as easy as it used to be and there is a lot of competition. This country is moving from a smokestack/industrial base to technology. I would like to bring a high-tech company here to put us on the map along with NASA. This city is very fortunate over other communities; we have the resources to do it. We have NASA, the Ford property, rail, airport and interstate systems, it's all here. We just have to go out there and aggressively market and that's what we intend to do and am starting to do right now.

Mr. Stemm agreed that the city has to be aggressive going forward and don't like the way you see the approach with Ford, I think we're going to be on the wrong side of the fence. As a city we need to go forward, be aggressive and find the best options.

Mr. Vecchio stated while you were up in Michigan can you tell us any of the people you may have spoken with?

Mayor Gammella responded no, not really, I can tell you this. After Bill Ford, Chief Executive Officer and next in line that's who I was talking with. These are people who make the decisions and can share that privately. This is how things get done by not saying things and working together. They know what this city wants and what we're expecting and most importantly. We need them to deliver and help this city out. It's not going to be the City of Brook Park, it's going to be the State of Ohio, Federal Government and Ford Motor Company when the city purchases that property. As far as the cleanup of the property, it's not as bad as many are being led to believe because all along they have been cleaning that property up. When the Casting Plant was demolished they pulled a lot of stuff out of there and cleaned up a lot of things. There are still issues but there are issues on any site that size. I feel very confident we'll get something there but it's going to take time.

Reports and Communications from the Mayor:

Questions: cont.

Mr. Vecchio asked if there are any long-term or short-term goals as to how you're approaching this with Ford? Whether it be to see if they're going to do something themselves or open up the property; are there any timelines?

Mayor Gammella responded we all understand Ford owns the property and the city has two options. We can work with them or threaten them, I'd much prefer working with them. There's two entities that the city is going to have to work with. There is Ford Manufacturing that currently controls the property but then you have Ford Land who will eventually mark the property to someone else if it comes to that. Currently, Ford Manufacturing still controls that property. If you want to get into a proactive lawsuit with Ford, I would not advise that. But, I really think by working with them because it's in their best interest too, if they're not going to utilize that property they'll do something else with it; they don't want to keep it on a tax duplicate. I would like to see them bring something here Ford related to keep Ford in our city.

Mr. Vecchio stated with being in office some 88 days, are you planning something like a 100 day in office report to residents or Council, as to where the city is at?

Mayor Gammella responded I will be reporting to the residents and Council can call me and we'll talk.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS, AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

Engineer Piatak

Mr. Piatak stated no report this evening.

Service Director Garner

Mr. Garner reported in the past two weeks the Vactor truck has been out doing catch-basin maintenance; currently working in the Ashland, Harrison and Shelby area. Within a few days' crews will be crossing Hummel Road into the Robert-Wengler areas; to date there have been approximately 60 catch-basins cleaned. That doesn't sound like a lot but there's probably 5,000 in the city and will take some time. The street-sweeper has swept the mains, secondary's and are currently in the residential areas starting in the Park Drive-Settlement Acres areas. The department was able to get a load of hot-patch out of the Bedford Hts. plant to start overlay of some of the city's winter water breaks. There are 24 with five (5) being overlaid and weather permitting will work to get them all overlaid.

Law Director Horvath

Mrs. Horvath stated Council was provided the Active Civil Litigation list and have four cases listed.

Recreation Director Elliott

Mr. Elliott reported the last week of March was very busy and the department had great participation with the Midnight Madness on March 23rd. The week of spring break the

Reports and Communications from departments, commissions and other public officials: cont.

department had the 'Brook Park Team Olympics' that went the entire week with great participation. The Easter Egg Hunt was held this past weekend and Mr. Elliott thanked everyone who participated and/or donated, it is greatly appreciated. Certainly, to the Recreation Department staff, Recreation Commissioners, Miss Brook Park, Neighborhood Watch Group, City Council, Humenik Funeral Homes, Brook Park Boosters and most of all the children and families. Looking ahead, on Thursday, May 3rd the Best of Brook Park event will be taking place at the Ford UAW Hall, which is a great event that recognizes volunteerism and good that people do in the community each and every year as well as the Citizen of the year.

Finance Director Cingle

Mr. Cingle reported on the Tax Department, the filing date is April 17th for city income tax returns. The Tax Department will have extended hours until 7 p.m. on April 10th, 17th and also on Saturday, April 7th and 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. If any resident has any questions or needs assistance in filing city tax returns the tax department hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, no appointment necessary.

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

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS:

1. Investigator's Report

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Burgio, to verbally approve the report.

Mr. Salvatore asked for an explanation as to how this is being done under the letter K?

Mr. Vecchio responded Miscellaneous Business, Appointments, Confirmations; this would be a Miscellaneous Business item.

Mr. Salvatore thinks this should appear under letter J- Verbal Approval.

Mr. Vecchio referred to the law director for an opinion.

Mrs. Horvath stated the Council Rules are probably broad enough that this item could be placed under either J or K, I think that would be Council's choice. Certainly, this is Miscellaneous Business that you're seeking verbal approval of. My suggestion is since we passed Letter J it may be appropriate under the Letter K.

Mr. Mencini agreed with the law director and stated he would feel more comfortable under Letter J - Verbal Approval.

Mr. Vecchio commented I didn't have to concur with the law director, I think the report can go under either one of those letters; especially since because it's so broad-spectrum on this.

Mr. Poindexter stated I was made aware of this two minutes prior to the Council meeting and not exactly sure what this is about; so I won't feel comfortable voting for Verbal Approval this evening. I'd like to have time to consider what we're voting on and, quite frankly, we haven't discussed this or done anything with it. I'd feel more comfortable with waiting to proceed on this.

Mr. Scott stated what was read is the investigation between Councilman Orcutt and I, this Investigator's Report was submitted on September 15, 2017 and has been in the Council office since then. It was placed in the Finance Committee on October 10, 2017 and I don't know what more we could have done. The opportunity was there for everyone to read the report and don't know what else to do. We can't let it sit there, we have to get this out, put it behind us and move on.

Mr. Salvatore clarified what we're trying to accomplish, is Council is voting on the conclusion of the report based on your findings, appointed by Council, to wrap this up.

Mr. Scott concurred.

Mr. Salvatore stated for the record, I would still like to see it under Letter J but will follow the advice of the law director, but would feel more comfortable with it being under Letter J.

Mr. Vecchio stated if Council feels more comfortable with that, I ask that a motion be made to go back to Letter J - Verbal Removal.

Mr. Salvatore interjected the Law Director spoke on this and that's enough for me.

The clerk called the roll by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to verbally approve the Investigator's Report.

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

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

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY SUBJECT MATTER:

Joan Markusic
13911 Bellbrook Drive

Ms. Markusic stated she watched the Thursday, March 29th Special Council meeting and thanked Council for putting the Departmental requests on hold until having a chance to look at them. Our funds need to seriously be looked at, our city has very serious issues and our money is not something to be messed around with and Council shows courtesy to the residents by not just handing out money. I'm not saying that they are using money recklessly, I'm just saying with all the city's issues our money needs to be looked

Remarks from the audience on any subject matter: cont.

at spent in a way. That three to five years down the line residents aren't saying we just gave this much money and all of a sudden you're doing this. Why didn't you not put the money there, hold it back and move forward with something new that was needed. We, as residents, are struggling just like the city and made important decisions every day and you need to look a little bit further than this very moment. I know city streets need repaired, more police and fire personnel are needed but thinks the money needs to be put where best used at this time. Really look at what the money is being used for rather than putting monies into something that in three to five years is going to be torn down or non-existent. I think this shows responsibility and making people accountable for the monies given. I think it's very important to show the residents that you're paying attention by looking and not just handing out a dollar.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: (FIRST READING):

- 1. RESOLUTION NO. 12-2018, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVING TH MINUTES OF THE HOUSING COUNCIL ON THE CITY OF BROOK PARK'S COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced by Mayor Gammella

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to suspend.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Burgio, to adopt.

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

NAYS: None. Res. No. 12-2018, has passed under Suspension of the

Rules. Adopted.

- 2. RESOLUTION NO. 13-2018, SUPPORTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND THE CITY OF CLEVELAND IN DECLARING OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY AS PUBLIC EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced by Mayor Gammella and Council as a Whole.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Burgio, to suspend.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Scott, to adopt.

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

NAYS: None. Res. No. 13-2018, has passed under Suspension of the

Rules. Adopted.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

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

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

Mr. Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED *Michelle Blazak*
Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED *May 1, 2018*

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