

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL CAUCUS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Vecchio, 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 Law Director Horvath, Mayor Gammella, Assistant Finance Director Healy and Finance Director Cingle.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON THE ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS THAT PERTAIN TO THE AGENDA ONLY:

Tom Greenlee
15841 Paulding Blvd.

Mr. Greenlee expressed the following concerns with the Memorandum of Understanding between the city and Berea City School District. On page 2-C, section 4, indicates the SRO (School Resource Officer) agreement is unique to the City of Brook Park. On page 3-C, section five, speaks of two SRO's one for each of the two existing schools and one for the new elementary school; having SRO's at both Brookview and Brook Park Memorial for the coming school year.

Mr. Vecchio interjected going over the Composition under Organizational says one officer will be assigned to the Brookview Elementary, Brook Park Memorial Elementary and the new elementary school upon opening; that's only one SRO between both buildings.

Mr. Greenlee continued on page 10, section 11, discusses the two SRO's the city will supply to the school district. For each SRO provided a police officer is being removed from city duties and imagine that a police officer would be hired and next year the hiring of two police officers. On page 9, section 7, speaks to the district's responsibilities of providing a private office for each of the SRO's. The addendum speaks of the costs involved with the district giving the city a quick-claim deed to both properties equaling 28 acres; totaling \$672,000. The city pays for that by waiving the building and permit fees, renovations of the ballfield and sole cost of an SRO for three years which comes to the total cost the school district values the property. What is not in here is half the SRO cost for 50 years, approximately \$2 million-dollars. There is nothing in there about the city getting any revenue with the school district leasing the ballfield for 50-years, approximately \$10,000 a year equaling \$500,000. Looking at this the city is paying another \$2.5 million-dollars for \$672,000 worth of property. That has nothing to do with the allocation of parking spaces for the spectators, the opening of the Recreation Center for use of the restroom facilities and locker rooms at no charge. The city is offsetting the total cost of the property with funds the city will spend on those three categories. There is nothing about a ballfield for 50 years and the city being compensated.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Burgio, to respond to the audience.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Poindexter stated there may be some confusion about the city's obligations with the SRO, currently, that is a volunteer position between the city and the school district. The agreement for the fields says the city has to pay the full cost up until the end of school year 2023; two-years less than the original agreement proposed; there is nothing in the contract that states the program must be continued beyond that time scope. I think this is a great deal that has always been a mutual agreement between the two entities and it is my understanding that program can be stopped at any time the city chooses to. The 50-years does not apply to the SRO it only applies to the lease of the baseball field; during that same 50-year period and any time beyond the city gets full access to the field all year round, other than the time during baseball season when the high-school has priority.

Mr. Orcutt stated this contract is very important to the city and its residents. This world has changed with how certain people do certain things in schools' and this contract will enhance the safety for the children and adults in that building. An SRO officer to Brook Park is very unique and with that comes costs. To clarify I am a big advocate for the SRO and after 2023 the city goes 50-50% with the schools. Any monies brought in through grants for the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Program) or anything else that cost will be split between the school district and the city. With the cost over the acreage I think the city is getting a great and fair deal; the most important is the enhancement of the safety of the children and adults in that (school) building.

Mr. Mencini stated the monies being spent on the schools and properties the city is nowhere near what will be put on those properties. I'm hoping with both properties it turns into great revenue for the city and also enhances the community. Sometimes, it's just not a money thing sometimes it's having something to enhance the city's park system, to get people to come here. Those are two valuable pieces of property that the city is going to obtain.

Mr. Vecchio asked Mr. Elliott as far as the restrooms are concerned? The concession stand currently out in left field are those restrooms full-service and be available for use by the teams and family members during games?

Mr. Elliott responded yes.

Mr. Vecchio stated I'm in favor of this deal with the school district and also have been an advocate for the SRO. I firmly believe that there is not a cost that can be incurred that would change the possibility of a life of a child and would go to the ends of the earth to spend monies so that our children are protected. The SRO's in this agreement are until 2023 that the city pays and after that year it's split like most of

Remarks from the audience on the ordinances and/or resolutions on the agenda only: cont.

the other districts. Having children in the district I look forward to having that SRO in the buildings.

Mayor Gammella wants to make it clear to everyone that if the city does not get this school and another buyer comes in and takes it. If the city doesn't get that property and Council is well aware the city loses half a football field, baseball field, the restrooms, the playground, the Veteran's Memorial and brick walkway, two pavilions and half of Kennedy Park. It's not going to be \$3 million-dollars it's going to be \$672,000 that's what the cost is going to be.

Mr. Elliott stated point of clarification because there are some numbers that I do not agree with. Very simply put, the 50-year lease made with the schools is no different than what the city's been doing for probably the last 50-years. The schools will not be paying to use that field just like the city does not pay to use the district's sports centers, baseball fields or any football fields. The city has had a tremendous relationship with the district that should be in a community. The district has been outstanding and while the district is playing they will maintain the field. Beyond that the city will use it 85% of the time versus how much time the district will actually use the field. The school will provide a scoreboard and other features on the field that the district and city are working on together. When baseball or softball teams come to play they travel by bus and will not be using the locker rooms; the city has more parking then ever needed for a baseball game. Baseball games have been played at Plant Lane for the last 20-years with no problems. This is a great working relationship and one that will benefit the community and schools for a very long time.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to go back to the Regular Order of Business.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (FIRST READING):

1. ORDINANCE NO. 11074-2019, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, STATE OF OHIO, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019. Introduced by Mayor Gammella

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Orcutt, to suspend.

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

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

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

NAYS: None. Ordinance No. 11074-2019, has passed under Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions: (First Reading): cont.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 11075-2019, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ADDENDUM TO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH EXHIBITS, AN AGREEMENT REGARDING A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER, (EXHIBIT C) AND A LEASE AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT (EXHIBIT D) WITH THE BEREA SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR EXCHANGE OF APPROXIMATELY 18 ACRES OF LAND KNOWN AS BROOK PARK MEMORIAL (P.P.N. 343-17-001) AND 10 ACRES OF LAND KNOWN AS BROOKVIEW ELEMENTARY (P.P.N. 344-15-008, 344-20-086 AND 344-15-178) FOR A LEASEHOLD OF A BASEBALL FIELD LOCATED AT KENNEDY BASEBALL FIELD AND OTHER CONSIDERATION, PURSUANT TO ORC 3113.04 AND ORC 3113.41 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Gammella

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

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

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

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

NAYS: None. Ordinance No. 11075-2019, has passed under

Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. ORDINANCE NO. 11073-2019, AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO PROVIDE ADJUSTMENTS IN COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY, OTHER THAN ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THOSE COVERED UNDER NEGOTIATED LABOR CONTRACTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Gammella.

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

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

NAYS: None. The motion carried.

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

Mr. Scott commented to Mayor Gammella in one of our conversations was freezing the salaries after the raises and won't be making any amendments but am hoping you hold to your word to keep the executive salaries in check.

Mayor Gammella responded the salaries will definitely be kept in check.

Mr. Scott commented being there has been issues in the past.

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

NAYS: None. Ordinance No. 11073-2019, has passed under

Suspension of the Rules. Adopted.

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
NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED *Michelle Blazak*
Michelle Blazak
Clerk of Council

APPROVED *April 16, 2019*

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

1,861 words

