

**ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED  
AT THE CAUCUS PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING  
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019**

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 Law Director Horvath, Mayor Gammella, Recreation Director Elliott, Service Director Gardner, Finance Director Cingle (7:06 p.m.) and Engineer Piatak (7:30 p.m.).

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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, MENCINI:**

1. A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JUNE 8, 2019 AS 'GLOBAL WELLNESS DAY' IN BROOK PARK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Orcutt, Council as a Whole and Mayor Gammella.

Mr. Orcutt stated this is the second year being brought forward and last year celebrated Global Wellness Day 2018 during the Ward 3 picnic. On June 8, 2019 'Global Wellness Day' will be celebrating its eighth year with the same slogan 'One Day can change your life. This is a day dedicated to raising awareness about living well and recognizing the value of life by following seven simple steps: Walk for one hour, drink more water, don't use plastic bottles, eat healthy foods, do a good deed, have a family dinner and sleep at 10:00 p.m. It's important not to incorporate all these steps all at once but to incorporate a few of them into our daily lives on a regular basis. Global Wellness Day is celebrated in over 100 countries at 5,000 different locations. At last year's Ward 3 picnic kicked off with a one-mile walk which raised \$480.08 for the American Cancer Society. On June 8, 2019 the annual Ward 3 picnic will be held at Wedo Park to include a one-mile walk for cancer at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Orcutt thanked Councilmembers and administration staff for all the help given at last year's picnic.

Mr. Poindexter thanked Mr. Orcutt for bringing this forward, it is a great event.

Mr. Mencini stated last year's Ward 3 picnic had a great turnout.

**Motion** by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Stemm, to place on the next Council agenda.

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

**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

**Legislative Committee - Chairman, Mencini: cont.**

2. A RESOLUTION HONORING EXPRESS DELI AND BEVERAGE FOR MAKING YELP'S TOP 100 LIST OF BEST PLACES TO EAT IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Salvatore, Council as a Whole and Mayor Gammella.

Mr. Salvatore stated would like to recognize the owner of Express Deli and Beverage to a Council meeting.

Mr. Mencini stated was also honored in the plain dealer and going there for the price paid people will not be disappointed, well deserved honor.

Mr. Burgio stated talking with the owner who is impressed with the feedback received from the YELP website. Not only being the Top 100 they are also #44 of 100, with only two being in Ohio, recommends the corned beef.

Mr. Orcutt stated the owner knows all the children's names in the Fairlawn area and when entering the entire family welcomes, you, and one of the nicest places to be at.

Mr. Poindexter stated when first moving to Brook Park and working around the corner from the deli I ate there three or four times a week, recommends the pastrami wrap.

**Motion** by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Poindexter, to place on the next Council agenda.

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

Mr. Vecchio commented the sound inside the Council Chambers is working correctly the problem is in the livestream and are working on it.

3. A RESOLUTION HONORING MIDPARK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS REUNION COMMITTEE OF 1968 ON THEIR 50<sup>TH</sup> YEAR REUNION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Salvatore, C/W and Mayor Gammella.

Mr. Salvatore stated growing up back in the day we were friends with five different classes from 1968 and back. The comments made for the 1968 50<sup>th</sup> reunion is it was one of the best ever seen.

**Legislative Committee - Chairman, Mencini: cont.**

**Motion** by Mr. Stemm, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to place on the next Council agenda.

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

4. A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO NEGOTIATE LOWER DRUG PRICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Salvatore, Councilmembers Mencini, Orcutt, Scott, Burgio, Poindexter, Council President Vecchio and Mayor Gammella.

Mr. Salvatore stated Congress has had discussions about lowering drug prices and coming up with regulations forcing that to happen. One reason to bring this legislation forward is because of a discussion with someone at Southwest of a gentleman paying \$700.00 to fill a prescription and a doctor coming to his assistance to reduce to \$400.00.

Mr. Vecchio thanked Councilman Salvatore for bringing this legislation forward because it brings up a lot of expensive issues that everyone faces, from children up through adults that take medication.

Mr. Poindexter thanked Mr. Salvatore for bringing this forward, this is something I know quite a bit about and am always advocating for working class people and underprivileged people. These drug companies are making huge amounts of money off of things people need to survive; understand making a profit but does it have to be that high that people can't afford medicine. To Mr. Salvatore, is this part of a national campaign to put pressure on Congress or hoping that is what it turns into?

Mr. Salvatore responded if that happens in started in Brook Park and Southwest General.

Mr. Orcutt stated this is a great piece and is not talked about enough and this should be a top priority. This needs to be addressed immediately and hasn't been. Many residents on fixed incomes have to decide whether to buy needed medicine for the month or food.

Mr. Mencini commented this is something every township and municipality should be looking to do. Whether people have insurance or not we see the outrageous prices.

**Legislative Committee - Chairman, Mencini: cont.**

**Motion** by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Burgio, to place on the next Council agenda.

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

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTENTION:** Stemm. The motion carried with a vote of 6 and one abstention.

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**SAFETY COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, STEMM:**

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 525.16 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED 'SMOKING PROHIBITED IN MUNICIPALLY OWNED AND OPERATED BUILDINGS' AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Mencini.

Mr. Mencini stated this is something that should be looked at with the warmer weather coming. In previous discussions, suggestions were made of 25' or 25-yards. Most smokers are very courteous and walk a distance away so 25' seems fair to me. Also, this legislation should be amended to include vaping and don't want in the parks & playgrounds.

Mr. Salvatore stated the city has something in place for no smoking in city buildings and this adds playgrounds and parks. I made a suggestion of providing a radius around the baseball fields because when a law is passed it has to be enforceable; the radius suggestion might be a good place to start. The only change to the existing policy is the inclusion of parks & playgrounds.

Mr. Mencini concurred and added 25' and vaping.

Mr. Scott commented vaping should be more exact by saying any electronic smoking devices; vaping electronic cigarettes.

Mr. Stemm commented under Section A can be changed to tobacco products to cover everything.

Mr. Vecchio stated to expand on Mr. Scott because vaping now goes into even more issues with that so the electronic cigarettes is going to be the better option; because now there are issues with illegal activity taking place in those.

Mr. Orcutt stated this can be simplified but all that Council needs to do is instead of generalizing the whole entire park, set a perimeter; add the electronic devices or illegal activity with that I don't know. Also, this would have to go further by working with the city's service department for signage.

**Safety Committee - Chairman, Stemm: cont.**

Mr. Poindexter asked for clarification of the 25' radius would that be from the entrance of the park, benches of the field or swing sets?

Mr. Mencini responded the way I'm looking at this is from the impact. If it's in the outer edges of the playground, then use 25'. For example, Hufsey-Forbes fields there is no 25' gap between those fields so it would have to everything behind towards Sylvia and outfield fence. If you're going to set a radius and feet parameters that would be wherever the event or structure.

Mr. Poindexter stated let's say the 25' goes to the city sidewalk is that encompassed into that park?

Mr. Mencini responded that should be okay if you're looking at Hufsey-Forbes fields.

Mr. Poindexter commented Carpenter Park on Sheldon Road has probably 15' from the sidewalk.

Mr. Mencini responded we have a 25' radius are we going to stay with that or include sidewalks or poles.

Mr. Vecchio stated the simple placement of a no smoking beyond this point stops that. If it's the entrance of the park, then so be it and if caught smoking that's where the penalty comes in. This is a great ordinance that people will honor and all suggestions made have been valid.

**Motion** by Mr. Orcutt, supported by Mr. Mencini, to place on the next Council agenda.

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Mr. Poindexter would like to see the legislation amended to the 25' radius before moving to the Council meeting.

Mr. Salvatore suggested the motion be rescinded and legislation placed on the next Caucus Prior to in order for the sponsor of the legislation come up with the proper amendment.

Mr. Orcutt and Mr. Mencini withdrew their motion and support to place on the next Council agenda.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Mrs. Horvath under subsection A, what is the minimum and maximum fine for a minor misdemeanor?

**Safety Committee - Chairman, Stemm: cont.**

Mrs. Horvath responded there is no jail time and the maximum fine is \$100.00, minimum would be up to the hearing officer as to what is appropriate.

**Motion** by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Burgio, to place on the next Caucus Prior to agenda of April 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

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

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 7:30 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.

1,799 words