

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

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

SCOTT, SCHMUCK, ORCUTT, TROYER, MENCINI, POINDEXTER, SALVATORE

Also in attendance were Mayor Gammella, Law Director Horvath, Finance Director Cingle and Economic Development Commissioner Adams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. Regular Caucus meeting minutes held on November 10, 2020.
Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mrs. Schmuck, to approve as printed.
ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Schmuck, Scott, Orcutt, Poindexter, Salvatore
NAYS: Troyer. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

2. Regular Caucus meeting minutes held on January 12, 2021.
Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve as printed.
ROLL CALL: AYES: Scott, Mencini, Poindexter, Salvatore, Schmuck, Orcutt
NAYS: Troyer. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

DISCUSSION:

1. COUNCIL OFFICE PROCEDURES (Councilman Troyer). Moved by **motion** from the January 12, 2021 Caucus meeting.

Mr. Troyer asked Mr. Vecchio is this for sure livestreaming?

Mr. Vecchio responded yes, as far as everything I see from the livestream itself looking at BoxCast it's streaming.

Mr. Troyer stated have no problem and don't like putting things off but there is a lot of items on the agenda this evening. It's a matter of whether Council wants to proceed with this and sure there is some stuff out there and some people are ready. Think we've had some issues and off the bat would like to throw it out there but, again, Council can move the motion that it's been discussed, or do a different day but would suggest there has been issues with the Caucus Prior to and what they're originally intended for. I'd like to suggest that on the Caucus Prior to is used, especially when there is nothing else on it, to pull stuff out (of committee) that's been in for 90 days. The Council has the 90-day rules for items that are in committee and a lot of times those items are in there for a reason. For instance, the legislation on this agenda for the police contracts that Council will probably dispose of them, there shouldn't be a lot of discussion. Also, the ones that are waiting for COVID-19

Discussion: cont.

to be over and suggest that Council pull the ones that are in for 90-days out of committee on the Caucus Prior to agenda, put those on those, as long as it's not going to be acted on per-say.

Mr. Vecchio asked Mr. Troyer you're just looking to use that agenda for action to bring something (out of committee) to be put back in committee during that time?

Mr. Troyer responded correct, put back in or dispose of because it's a moot point, at that point. That would eliminate the items from the regular Caucus meeting and speed things up.

The clerk clarified it's 60 days, no longer 90 days, for legislation to come out of committee.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mr. Troyer, have no issue with that actually a good idea.

Mr. Troyer commented want to poll Council or take a vote on that?

Mr. Vecchio responded don't know if that needs to have that, it's literally something you want done with an item that's been in (committee) over 60 days. Whether it's going to be an action itself or an inaction, by not acting upon it, is an action, that's no issue.

Mr. Scott asked what is the procedure for Zoom in case, for some unknown, reason or emergency arises and the Council President isn't able to run the Zoom.

Mr. Vecchio responded currently it's being worked out with Mr. Salvatore and our clerk tomorrow evening. We will be meeting tomorrow evening to go over all that; currently the clerk can start a meeting. Some of Mr. Salvatore's points are which way to go with bringing people into a meeting, that will all be handled tomorrow evening.

Mr. Scott continued this ties into Mr. Troyer's Caucus Prior to, two weeks Mr. Troyer presented some items for discussion. Would it be logical or convenience to put a small synopsis on what the discussion item is, is that something that could be done? There was Council procedures and an item about the Council clerk that's why I made the motion to move to February because nobody knew what those were about.

Mr. Vecchio stated as Council that can be put in the Council rules that anything put on Council discussion wise or anything like that has to have a synopsis. I suggest that if that's what you would like to do put it together and bring to a vote of Council as a rule change.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Mencini stated on that matter, Council used to have that and don't know what it stopped, couldn't have been very long, but when I used to get my minutes there was a little synopsis of either Caucus or Council. Just a little abbreviation and don't know when that ended up stopped being there it's come easy to Council. Because generally most times Council knows what is coming and is probably something that would make a lot of clarification for many.

Mr. Orcutt stated with the mention that Mr. Scott brought up about the livestream. My question to Mr. Vecchio, who brought it up earlier, while on the discussion on how the Council office is being operated. Part of that would be with the livestream and if Mr. Poindexter was having an issue this evening with the livestream and using the facility, possibly due to basketball games being livestreamed. Is Council having an issue with livestreaming as well?

Mr. Vecchio responded don't know because I'm not watching it to be able to see.

Mr. Orcutt interjected think there was an issue last week, was that possibly the reason why?

Mr. Vecchio commented very well could be.

Mr. Orcutt continued that is something that needs to be looked into immediately because with some people this is there only way to see the meetings and is important to a lot of residents.

Mr. Vecchio continued very well could be because with the bandwidth and stuff like that is being used much more now with the basketball games being livestreamed.

The clerk mentioned to Mr. Orcutt I will be looking into that tomorrow with BoxCast and the city's IT guys to see what the problem may be and will bring any conclusions and/or solutions to Council.

Mr. Orcutt commented that's a fantastic idea and am not trying to cutout anyone from their children playing basketball but an avenue has to be provided for residents to see what is going on with city business.

Mr. Troyer - Point of clarification.

Mr. Vecchio recognized.

Mr. Troyer continued just want to clarify one thing and this might have helped. In my request for those topics under discussion they weren't as I wrote them. In my text, that everyone has, for instance I wrote "Council Clerk position". It was not to

Discussion: cont.

talk about the clerk because you don't talk about a person, it was about the position and the part-time position. I wasn't the one that put Council clerk on there that was done by somebody else I requested Council Clerk position. I was a little more detailed on that but understand an in the future would maybe Council should have that or do that. But again, I'm not done with this issue but saying for tonight this meeting is packed would like to move on.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Orcutt, that this item was discussed.

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

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

2. SHOP IN BROOK PARK (Councilman Mencini)

Mr. Mencini stated doing this at the present time, brought up by a few residents, and talked to the Mayor briefly. Obviously, with COVID-19 will be one-year next month and a lot of the city merchants, retailers, and businesses in Brook Park have stuck through all this. Really think now is the time to support them and brought this forward Council and hope all of you will jump on this with me. Also, ask all of you if maybe Council wants to find ways to promote this i.e. banners and things of that sort.

Mr. Scott mentioned that the meeting isn't being livestreamed, just checked on not livestreaming.

Mr. Vecchio asked where is the meeting not being livestreamed at? I'm watching on the BoxCast dashboard so does that mean it's not coming over to the city Council page?

Mr. Scott stated concurred.

Mr. Mencini commented people are seeing the basketball game.

Mr. Vecchio stated I'm literally watching, as sitting here cleaned my glasses and due to the delay the BoxCast stream that just showed cleaning my glasses. So it's not coming over the Council page (on the website).

Mr. Scott stated nope.

Mr. Vecchio stated there is an issue coming across over to the webpage.

Mr. Orcutt commented the same issue with the night of the (snow) storm when residents weren't able to see, that a big problem.

Livestream issues:

Mr. Scott mentioned that could be why Mr. Poindexter is having an issue with being at Council.

Mr. Mencini concurred.

Mr. Vecchio stated with this because this is recording, no matter what, this will be out for the residents after this meeting; will ensure that the webmaster gets this posted. In the meantime, this has taken place since streaming at the same time as basketball games are going on, correct?

Mr. Mencini stated the high school league. As I stated Council a lot of these people.

Mr. Troyer - Point of Order.

Mr. Vecchio recognized.

Mr. Troyer continued we can't have a meeting without livestreaming, that's like having a meeting not letting the public in.

Mrs. Horvath stated my question would be is there anyone out there that is able to view this meeting now? In other words, it's not uploading onto the city Council page is it possible that there are residents that are able to watch now? Does anybody know.

Mr. Mencini stated been getting some texts and haven't had one tell me they are getting the meeting. My question is this is a Caucus meeting, not questioning Mr. Troyer at all, but know the Council meeting is definitely official. This is a Caucus meeting is there anything stated that it has to be livestreamed?

Mrs. Horvath responded the problem is the meeting has to be opened for the public to view. Since the chambers are closed and all of us are someplace else talking on Zoom. That's the problem is will the Open Meetings requirements by proceeding because the public can't view what is being done. I've seen people say they were able to see and others saying no they couldn't get it, may depend on internet or what and don't that the answer to that. The clerk may have an answer tomorrow, this is a Caucus meeting and guess Council could take the agenda items to a Caucus Prior to before the next meeting and adjourn. So far only Council procedures and minutes have been discussed and don't know. Is there some way it can be determined whether someone would be able to see the meeting?

Mr. Vecchio commented that's what I'm trying to find out if there is any way, I don't know.

Livestream issues: cont.

The clerk stated it's on the Council page I'm watching the meeting right now on the Council page of the city's website. I see Mrs. Schmuck's hand up and watching the video on the Council page.

Mr. Vecchio stated clicking onto it and am looking at the city Council page at the moment and says broadcast did not air last week. Not showing any video today when I clicked on.

The clerk stated Mrs. Schmuck is waving I'm watching it.

Mr. Vecchio stated going to try and come in through a different webpage and see.

Mr. Scott asked the clerk what are you on? www.cityofbrookpark.com

Clerk responded on the city webpage livestream.

Mr. Scott continued city Council livestream I have a black screen.

Mr. Vecchio commented so do I. To the clerk what is at the top of your browser? Is it www.cityofbrookpark.com?

Ms. Blazak stated yes, it is.

Mr. Vecchio continued forward slash (/) city Council livestream.

Ms. Blazak stated don't have that. I just went on www.cityofbrookpark.com and scrolled down and clicked on livestream.

Mr. Vecchio verified with the clerk you're on the city webpage under departments.

Ms. Blazak concurred clicked on departments and clicked on Council. That states broadcast started 2/9/21 7:00 p.m. ending 2/9/21 11:00 p.m. is now live, powered by BoxCast.

Mr. Vecchio commented don't have an answer.

Mrs. Schmuck asked is anyone able to see the basketball games, are they streaming? Since being narrowed down to possibility of Council streaming and basketball games. Is that a solution if it's not coming through for the basketball games too, can one or the other be dropped to see if it will work? The other question, is it possible the residents wherever Councilman Scott and Council President Vecchio is it the areas you may be coming from versus different areas in the city?

Livestream issues: cont.

Mr. Vecchio responded don't know, it's very strange the way the clerk can see it where she's located. I'm not able to see where I'm at.

Mr. Poindexter stated on there right now and looking.

Mr. Mencini stated residents are informing me they are getting a dark screen.

Mrs. Schmuck asked in a certain area or throughout the city?

Mr. Mencini responded throughout the city.

Mrs. Schmuck continued that's odd that one person can see it.

Mr. Vecchio interjected I'm looking at the recreation center basketball game going on broadcast 2/9/21 that is live.

Mrs. Schmuck commented unfortunately looks like will have to hold off on this meeting.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mrs. Schmuck, to move the rest of this meeting (agenda items) to Tuesday, February 23rd and dispose of meeting.

Mr. Salvatore asked if the entire agenda will be moved starting at the beginning or pick up where the discovery of livestream issues?

Mr. Vecchio suggested due to finding out late in this meeting think the whole (agenda) be moved since only a couple of points were hit on.

Mayor Gammella commented agree.

Mr. Vecchio continued move the entire meeting (agenda items) unfortunately is not existent because of issues tonight.

Mr. Poindexter asked if any items are time-sensitive?

Mayor Gammella commented nothing I see is time-sensitive.

Mrs. Schmuck asked is there a basketball game on Tuesday?

Mr. Vecchio responded we will get this issue resolved before Tuesday.

Mrs. Horvath asked Mr. Adams if there is any time-sensitivity to the Housing Council legislation?

Livestream issues: cont.

Mr. Adams responded no, the city has until second last week of March to get down to the Ohio Department of Development.

Mr. Troyer reiterated his **motion** based on the what everyone is talking about. The **motion** is to move this meeting in its entirety to February 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mr. Vecchio adjourned this meeting until February 23rd.

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.

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