

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022**

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:

MENCINI, SCOTT, SALVATORE, TROYER, POINDEXTER, COYNE, ROBERTS

Also in attendance were Mayor Orcutt, Law Director Horvath, Finance Director Cingle.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES HELD ON DECEMBER 7, 2021

NOTE: REMOVED FROM DECEMBER 21, COUNCIL MEETING.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Mencini to approve the regular Council meeting minutes for December 7, 2021 as printed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Mencini, Scott

NAYS: Troyer

ABSTENTION: Salvatore, Roberts and Coyne. The motion carried with a vote of four (4) to one (1) and three (3) abstention.

2. CAUCUS PRIOR TO MEETING MINUTES HELD ON DECEMBER 21, 2021.

Motion by, Mr. Mencini supported by Mr. Poindexter, to approve December 21, 2021, Caucus Prior To meeting minutes.

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

NAYS: Troyer. The motion carried.

ABSTENTION: Roberts and Coyne. The motion carried with a vote of four (4) to one (1) and two (2) abstention.

3. REGULAR MEETING MINUTES HELD ON DECEMBER 21, 2021.

Motion by, Mr. Mencini supported by Mr. Scott, to approve December 21, 2021, Regular Council meeting minutes.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Menicni, Scott, Salvatore, Poindexter,

NAYS: Troyer. The motion carried.

ABSTENTION: Roberts, Coyne

Mr. Scott read the 2021 Sunshine Law, Chapter 8C Content of minutes and asked Mr. Troyer for his reason for not approving the minutes. Mr. Troyer stated that the minutes are not verbatim and as long as they are not verbatim, he will continue to vote in the same manner.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Aviation & Environmental Committee- Co-Chairman Poindexter

Mr. Poindexter stated no report.

Finance Committee – Chairman, Scott

Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES: CONT.

Legislative Committee - Chairman, Coyne

Madame Coyne thanked everyone and had nothing to report.

Parks & Recreation Committee - Chairman, Mencini

Mr. Mencini reported that games will start this week, Thursday. Masks required and two parents or two people per player are allowed.

Planning Committee - Chairman, Troyer

Mr. Troyer reported that there is one legislative item. An esthetic approval for a wooden platform on the front of a house on Calvin Dr. A Planning Commission meeting will take place on Monday. Nothing more to report.

Safety Committee - Chairman, Roberts

Mr. Roberts thanked everyone.

Service Committee – Chairman, Poindexter

Mr. Poindexter congratulated Brian Beyer and had nothing further to report.

Board of Zoning Appeals - Chairman, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore had nothing to report.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Southwest General Health Center – Trustee, Mencini

Mr. Mencini stated that he's looking forward to serving on that committee. Mr. Mencini would like to see more interaction between Southwest hospital and the City of Brook Park.

Berea Board of Education Representative, Coyne

Madame Coyne stated that she looks forward to working on this committee being a mother of 4 year old.

Technology and Innovation Council - Representative, Poindexter

Mr. Poindexter reported that the committee is scheduled to meet on January 12th.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR:

Mayor Orcutt reported on COVID saying Cuyahoga County ranks as one of the top counties in the country for positive cases. The Service Department is scheduled for all three (3) shifts to do round-the-clock buildings sanitization. The Service Department started with the Building Department, Community Room (Council Chambers), and City Hall.

Regulations were also implemented including requiring all City employees to wear a mask in all indoor common spaces and whenever 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained.

The Mayor restated from Mr. Mencini's report that there are new regulations at the Recreation Center as well in order to keep the community safe. The Mayor will re-evaluate in two (2) weeks.

Mayor Orcutt reported that his team has been working long hours on this official opening day for the City.

The Mayor further reported that the city is currently working on two (2) grants:

1. The County Community Supplemental Grant
2. The Brownfield Cleanup Program is due by the end of the month.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR: cont.

The Mayor stated that he will be working with City Council on two (2) major projects

1. Repairing the roof and the walls in the pool area.
2. Working on the basin at Wedo Park.

Mr. Poindexter asked the Mayor when will the appointments for the Economic Development, Safety Director, and other positions be filled.

Mayor Orcutt responded that the Safety Director appointment will not be filled immediately in order to select the best fit for the position and to analyze the fire and police department spending. The Economic Development Commissioner position is vital. 20 applicants applied through INDEED and four (4) interviews were conducted. More interviews are being scheduled for this week and next week. A thorough approach is being conducted for the Economic Development appointment. Mr. Mencini stated that the park systems, schools, and low staff and other issues are in need of action. How does the Mayor plan on addressing some of these issues?

Mayor Orcutt stated that the city will use the monies that the city already has. Grants will be aggressively pursued to help with some of the issues.

Roberts spoke about streetlight issues and asked the Mayor if that issue was addressed.

Mayor Orcutt responded by stating that he has been working with the Service Department and spoke with an electrician on this issue and will be putting in a report to the Illuminating Company. The Mayor has also met with an engineer about the flooding issues.

Madame Coyne asked the Mayor about plans for repairing the roads.

Mayor Orcutt responded by stating that 20 percent of the revenue brought in will be put into the City's Capital. The most pressing need for the City right now are vehicles but monies will be put towards the roads program.

Mr. Vecchio asked the Mayor to expound on the Brownfield Grant for the public.

Mayor Orcutt responded that the Brownfield Grant is approximately \$350 million for the whole state. Each county will be granted approximately \$1 million. The monies are to be secured in three ways. Submitting the application before the deadline of January 31st and preparing legislation to bring before the Council and the next Council meeting.

Mr. Troyer asked for clarification on whether the focus will be on just repairing the roof and the walls in the pool area or if The Mayor is looking to go beyond that. Mayor Orcutt responded that he is only focusing on the roof and the wall in the pool area for now.

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

Engineer Mr. Piatak

Mr. Piatak report that he received a message from the contractor who will do the

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONER AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS: cont.

waterline repair work on Sheldon Road under Abram's Creek. They will set up a detour Monday and Tuesday (January 10th and 11th) of next week and starting work on Wednesday (January 12th). The work is anticipated to take two (2) to three (3) weeks. Sheldon Road, between Eastland and Engle will be closed for an unknown period of time.

Recreation Director Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez thanked Mayor Orcutt and the City Council for their approval of his appointment to the position of Recreation Director. He reported that the holiday events were a huge success. Mr. Gonzalez spoke on the \$50,000 supplemental grant awarded last year that funded the outdoor fitness equipment that has not been installed because of a delay. It will be installed sometime in January. Mr. Gonzalez met with the Recreation Committee Chair (Mencini) on how to install the equipment. Mr. Gonzalez will apply for the same grant this year with the idea of using the grant to install public restrooms behind the Amphitheater. A public hearing was conducted today and collected many signatures. A rendering is up in that area for the public to see the space where the project will take place. Nothing is set in stone. A Resolution is needed to be attached to the grant application. Legislation for this will be on next Tuesday's agenda. There is a time crunch. This application has to be submitted by January 21st.

Basketball season is underway. The Berea City Schools has implemented a mask mandate. All coaches and players must wear masks unless actively engaged in basketball. Parents are being asked not to gather but drop off and pick up their children after practice. There is a limit of 2 spectators per game. All games will be live stream. Recreation Department policies will be re-evaluated on January 17th to be in line with school re-evaluated policies and procedures.

Finance Director Cingle

Mr. Cingle congratulated new appointees and Mayor Orcutt. Nothing to report.

Law Director Horvath

Mrs. Horvath stated that if anyone has any questions concerning the pending cases, give her a call. Nothing further to report.

Mr. Scott asked for the status of the Cooper Foundation with the ADA Equipment. Mayor Orcutt responded that he met with the Cooper Foundation. The Foundation has money to donate to the city with the understanding that the city would match their donation. The Mayor will look at the budget and thinks that there is money already earmarked for this purpose from last year. The Cooper Foundation will donate that money this year.

Mr. Scott asked where the equipment will be located whether in one location or spread among the city parks.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONER

AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS: cont.

Mayor Orcutt responded that the equipment will be placed at the proposed playground. The location will be discussed with the committee.

Madame Coyne asked for clarification on the Brownfield Clean-up grant will include the Ford area.

Mayor Orcutt confirmed that will be for the Ford area.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Cingle about the status of the RECONS from NASA. Mr. Cingle responded that there was nothing to report on that. Mr. Cingle did receive an email from a NASA employee asking for information on how to apply for a refund of his tax dollars. Mr. Cingle is placing information on the Website for users to follow. There may not be a clear picture of the status of the RECONS until on or around April 15th.

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

Mr. Vecchio stated for there is one introduction item that will be going into the Legislative Committee.

Verbal Approval:

Introduction:

1. ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1361.13 OF THE BROOKPARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED PARKING. Introduced by Mayor Gammella and Councilman Mencini.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY SUBJECT MATTER

Liz Varga 23065 Cedar Point Rd. Ms. Vargas congratulated the new appointees. She asked about the conditions of the city buildings and vacant buildings and if this will be addressed.

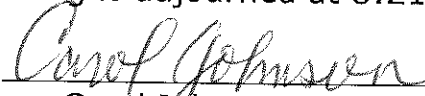
Ms. Varga also voiced concern over the city becoming like a big park and wanted to know if there were new businesses coming into the city.

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, Scott, Troyer, Poindexter, Coyne, Roberts
NAYS: None. The motion carried.


Mr. Vecchio stated the meeting is adjourned at 8:21p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Carol Johnson
Clerk of Council

APPROVED



January 18, 2022

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