

**CAUCUS PRIOR TO MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022  
7:00 P.M.**

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

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

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

**DISCUSSION:**

1. NEORSD Community Cost Share (CCS) application for the final design and construction documents of the Wedo Basin located at Wedo Park. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Mayor Orcutt elaborated on this item stating that the city has an issue with the city storm circuit and handling large storms including the flooding in residents' homes as a result. The Mayor stated this item was brought to Council for two reasons:

1. To give the new Council members information concerning the plan to put a Basin in the Wedo Park area.
2. To all of City Council up to speed with the plan to install a basin to help relieve the ditch during large storms. The plan also includes applying for Community Cost-sharing funds to pay for the final design and construction documents for this project.

Mayor Orcutt turned the floor over to the Engineer, Ed Piatak.

Mr. Piatak stated that last year a Wedo-Wengler feasibility study was completed. The preliminary layout plan that's in the Council agenda packet was included as part of the study. He reiterated a few highlights from the study:

The basin is to be located at Wedo Park which is approximately 5.7 acres. Approximately 4.8 acres will be used to occupy the basin, remove and relocate the pavilion, the playground, leave some of the parking lot in place, and the cell tower would remain in place.

The current drainage area of the basin is approximately 48 acres and 215 residential structures within that drainage area that will utilize that basin. The flow would be intercepted behind the last house on the west side of the street on Shelby Road. A chamber will be built to intercept the flow and divert it into the basin, detain the water there until the storm subsides and then the water will drain back just north of the cell tower.

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**DISCUSSION: cont.**

The estimated cost for the basin that was prepared last year is 2.3 million dollars. The estimate includes design construction, construction administration, etc. Currently, the Community Cost-share application will be submitted for the design and the construction documents.

Once completed, the Engineer and Mayor Orcutt will return to Council for authorization for the construction dollars to build the project. Early indications from the Sewer District will allow Brook Park to use its Community Cost-share funding for the feasibility study. The Sewer District also indicated that the final design and construction documents will be an eligible project as well as the construction.

Mr. Roberts asked about whether the project will be started before May or June.

Mayor Orcutt responded by reiterating the reason for presenting this item to Council. That is, to allow Council to know what will be done in the project and how the Community Cost sharing funds will be used. Once the application is approved, then the Mayor will bring it back to Council for its approval to spend those dollars to have the final design and documents created. After this, it goes to bid. Next, select the contractor(s) and then bring forth another piece of legislation to award to the selected contractor and then the project will get underway.

Mr. Piatak responded that the project wouldn't be completed by the Spring. He estimated a completion of the project would take 12-15 months.

Mayor Orcutt stated that the city is applying through the Community Cost-sharing account that has a balance of approximately \$800,000 now and is earmarked to receive an additional \$300,000 for the year 2022. The plan is to use this money towards this project to get it started sooner than later.

Madame Coyne asked if there was any consideration to use the Independent Excavating Company for the Ford dirt as a public-private partnership in order to save money.

Mr. Piatak responded that this has been discussed as an option.

Madame Coyne asked if Council could have a draft report of the homes within the project area that have flooded within the last five years to see what caused the flooding and what was the remedies in helping these residents.

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**DISCUSSION: cont.**

Mr. Piatak responded that the Service Department receives reports from residents concerning flooding issues. The Service department keeps a record of these reports which may or may not include where the water is coming from in the home. Mr. Piatak will work with the Service Director to gather information to share with Council on this issue.

Mr. Poindexter asked Mr. Piatak of the \$2.3 million, how much will the final design and construction documents cost.

Mr. Piatak responded that the initial estimate was approximately \$60,000. The proposal has not been finalized yet and does not have all of the information needed to have that cost amount at this time.

Mr. Poindexter asked Mayor Orcutt if the Community Cost-share agreement covers the entire cost for the project. Will the remainder of the additional three hundred thousand be used for this project or earmarked for other projects?

Mayor Orcutt responded that the construction documents will be paid by the city (Brook Park) to Euthenics to prepare those documents once the application is approved, it will be paid for upfront and then the city will be fully reimbursed.

Mayor Orcutt will meet with the Finance Department to brainstorm applying for the ability to use the money from that account as well as borrowing from future deposits. The terms of this can vary from five or up to seven years. The first step is to get the application completed and then it will go out to bid and talks are happening considering various contractors.

Mr. Troyer asked the Finance Department how much the Cost-share is every month.

Mr. Healy responded that he didn't have that information.

Mr. Troyer asked Mr. Healy if the Council could receive a monthly or quarterly report on the Cost Share account.

Mr. Troyer asked Mayor Orcutt if he had this information.

Mayor Orcutt responded that some of the money from that account has been earmarked for the ditch cleaning behind Westbrook and Michael from Parkman down to Holland. He will supply the other figures for the exact amounts. There are approximately \$800,000 in the account at this time.

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**DISCUSSION: cont.**

Mayor Orcutt continued to reply that he will get information to Council concerning this account. Monies from this account is also being used for other projects.

Mr. Troyer stated he would like the Council to be updated on what's in the account and that he is concerned that these funds will be depleted for one project leaving nothing for future projects.

Mayor Orcutt assured that this will not be the case. The money used to operate the city street sweeper, vector, and personnel will remain intact for preventative maintenance.

Mr. Troyer stated that it's important to know that if the funds are not used within (5) years, then the funds will be lost.

Mr. Troyer inquired about the other ideas for channeling water to the basin that had been considered that could be more advantageous.

Mr. Piatak stated that the Wedo basin will have the biggest impact on the 250 residential structures that are within the drainage area. If the ditch by Smith Road by the building department is diverted in the basin, then that would be an option to get other water into that basin. But, it will be diluted for the people in that neighborhood. The water that the basin collect and store will help residents outside of the basin area as well. The best plan is to execute the Wedo basin project as originally planned as shown in the Council packet.

Mayor Orcutt reiterated that this is something the Engineer explained last year and referred to the map in the Council packet. He directed the Council to look at one of the parcels on Harrison Drive. Mayor Orcutt continued; if they owned one of those parcels and could tap into the main on Harrison and use that as pressure relief and go directly into the basin.

Mayor Orcutt asked Mr. Troyer for confirmation that this was what Mr. Troyer was referring to.

Mr. Troyer confirmed.

Mayor Orcutt stated that this option was discussed but going in that direction would mean spending money to buy a parcel.

**DISCUSSION: cont.**

Right now, the focus is to capture the funds that the city can to complete the construction documents to start and then go out for bids to have someone dig that hole. This is something that can be looked into in the future but money would have to be in place to do it.

Mr. Piatak apologized for misunderstanding Mr. Troyer's question and agreed that an additional conduit to the basin would be beneficial.

Mr. Troyer inquired if the Ford property would affect this project.

Mr. Piatak replied that the property drains to the north of Brook Park Road and along the rear properties of the properties along Interstate 480. At some point they do converge, discharging over by the old stone property junkyard. But the Ford project would not benefit this neighborhood like this basin would.

Mr. Mencini inquired of Mr. Piatak how would these documents apply to future similar basin projects.

Mr. Piatak responded that the design would be completely different including the analysis, the basins, etc. There would be some similarities such as how to dig the dirt but everything else would be different.

Mr. Mencini asked if the project would look similar to the project on Middlebrook?

Mr. Piatak responded that it may look a little better.

Mr. Mencini commented that residents want to get the water out of their basement no matter the cost.

Mr. Orcutt stated that in addition to the Wedo and Wengler project, there is the roof and the walls in the pool in need of repair costing \$3.7 million. Also in factoring in the equation is the rebate checks going out from the City. The intention is to provide flood relief to the residents.

Mr. Scott asked Mr. Piatak to give a synopsis of the Community Cost Share program and asked how would this benefit Ward 4?

Mr. Piatak provided a synopsis of the Community Cost Share. The impact of this program would not be as significant to Ward 4 as to the residents near the basin but it will help.

**DISCUSSION: cont.**

Madame Coyne asked where is the application, the status of it, and will Council be able to review it before its submitted.

Mayor Orcutt responded that the application will be completely filled out by the Engineer, (Ed Piatak). It's a six-page application. A copy will be sent to Council.

Madame Coyne inquired if the Wedo Park plan will include addressing the problems from the homes to the main sewer, i.e. how will the water get to the main sewer.

Mayor Orcutt responded that for many years, the Service Department has been replacing broken tees. The City needs to get information to the residents to educate them on how to help remedy their own problems and issues. Mayor Orcutt is looking into ways to assist residents where they would have to help with some of the cost.

Mr. Poindexter inquired if legislation needed to be drafted to proceed.

Mayor Orcutt replied that this is just to introduce it to new Council members and bring them up to speed and after it's approved, then legislation will come forth.

**Motion** by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Mencini, that it was discussed.  
**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Poindexter, Mencini, Troyer, Scott, Salvatore, Roberts  
**NAYS:** Coyne. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before this meeting a **motion** by Mr. Mencini, supported by Madame Coyne, to adjourn.  
**ROLL CALL: AYES:** Mencini, Coyne, Roberts, Scott, Salvatore, Troyer, Poindexter  
**NAYS:** None. The motion carried.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Carol Johnson  
Carol Johnson  
Clerk of Council

APPROVED

February 15, 2022

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