

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022**

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, Finance Director Cingle, Service Director Beyer, Recreation Director Gonzales and Economic Development Commissioner Marnecheck.

DISCUSSION:

1. DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL - SHRI BADRINARAYAN, LLC, DBA BROOK PARK SMOKES AND BEVERAGE, 57077 SMITH ROAD, BROOK PARK, OH 44142.
C TRFO 8115303, Post Mark Date: 5/2/2022

Mrs. Horvath requested more time to finish the docket checks.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Mencini, to place on the April 19th Caucus Prior to agenda.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Mencini, Roberts, Scott, Coyne, Poindexter, Salvatore
NAYS: Unanimous.

2. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 11143-2020, AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BROOK PARK HOME MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (HMAP) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Mayor Orcutt stated there are low to moderate income residents in this city and this is an assistance program would help with exterior projects; few years ago also furnaces. This program has been suspended during COVID-19 and would like to bring back to help residents with the exterior of their home and help value the neighborhoods.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Marnecheck with the \$50,000.00, when notices came out of violations are there a lot of people inquiring about this with the citations and just looking into the program.

Mr. Marnecheck responded a list has been started and there are 13 or 14 individuals interested in the program.

Mr. Mencini continued is that in a short period of time or four when you came into office for two here, four there?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Marnecheck responded within the last month or so. As the weather changed people are looking around their homes received a notice from the building department and reached out.

Mr. Mencini concurred and curious if there would be enough funds.

Madam Coyne stated she feels there wasn't adequate time for this HMAP program during budget talks. Would like to make some amendments, first being the title to reflect where necessary in the legislation to read the Home Maintenance and Basement Flooding Assistance Program. Amend first 'Whereas' to read Home Maintenance and Basement Flooding Assistance Program. Amend second 'Whereas' to include City Council shall appropriate rescue from the American Rescue Program, Fund 282, in the amount of \$200,000.00 to the HMAP and Basement Flooding Program. Third 'Whereas' allocating \$100,000.00 to the HMAP assistance and \$100,000.00 to the Basement Flooding Assistance Program. Fourth 'Whereas' to include Basement Flooding Program. Fifth 'Whereas' to reflect \$10,000.00 of grants that eliminates the match; don't think that has been done for a while where they would match. Sixth 'Whereas' to amend financial assistance from the city to amend to read the use of HMAP funds shall be limited to the exterior. Seventh 'Whereas' include Residential Flooding Assistance Program. In general, no other city is doing this and this would be great for the residents and epic for flooding. Residents are in need of rescue and a return of \$50,000.00 from the Economic Development Fund.

Mayor Orcutt agrees it's very important with the tackling the flooding issue and has a meeting tomorrow with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) for funding through the community cost-share agreement that residents pay with their monthly bill. With the American Rescue Plan the monies left in there are approximately \$1.8 million-dollars it is the administrations' intent to put those monies towards the roof and walls of the pool area, know that might be a debate to do so or not to do. The central park committee that I put together met yesterday and walked in there and they were able to witness, Councilmembers Mencini and Salvatore, were able to witness it's literally raining outside and inside this building. The roof is falling into the empty pool and that is a major problem because that roof does cover the existing building that is in use, so that is the intent for the use of those dollars. With the building of a retention basin it is the intent of this administration to build, in my four years as Mayor, and \$80,000.00 was allocated and certified by this Council for the engineer to prepare construction documents and go out for bid. With the NEORS meeting tomorrow the discussion will be how to fund that construction and build that project through the community cost-sharing program. The community cost-sharing program is where the city can use the dollars that are put aside by the NEORS from the residential and businesses that pay their bill every month. The city would pay out the dollars to make

Discussion: cont.

the repair and have those dollars reimbursed to the city through that account. There are definitely plans to build flooding_relief and think taking the American Rescue dollars out of that fund would be actually a big issue especially with that roof caving in. My question to Madam Coyne is when talking about flooding relief and rescue what suggestions do you have for the homeowners for flooding relief besides the building of a retention basin?

Madam Coyne responded just things either the city is responsible for or bringing back the program that if there is something the city can assist residents with, being the city's fault or not. Because just building a retention basin is not going to stop the flooding problem.

Mayor Orcutt continued don't think you can take on mother nature, but will tell you that everything I understand from the meetings is that our piping is too small and can't handle it. So if we were to do something, as a city, to change that I don't know even know what the price tag would be to go in and replace storm drains and so forth. The best thing we know is that we can do is build a retention basin to relieve the crick when it gets filled. Already moving in place and have a very important meeting tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. with the NEORSD to talk about funding and how the city can pay through cost-sharing. To reiterate with the American Rescue Plan dollars, it is the administration's intention to use those dollars to fix the roof and walls of the pool area.

Madam Coyne continued what you're saying is that all the amount in Fund 282 and will be frank with you I agree with tearing the roof down but, again, don't think that is necessary because we don't know what we're going to do with that. Before we demolish any of these buildings like Brook Park Memorial (BPM) or whatever. I requested a walk through there are a lot of possibilities. The walls have been holding fine the roof yes eliminate the roof and don't think all of those monies should go towards the roof. Think a public hearing should be held about this to see what the residents want. If the city could somehow do this flooding program this would put Brook Park on the map.

Mayor Orcutt agrees with doing a flooding program and think it's based on building a retention basin at Wedo Park, to start, and then continue to build one at Wengler Drive and wherever we can relieve the pipes that are undersized.

Madam Coyne stated I think the residents are in need of rescue.

Mayor Orcutt continued couldn't agree with you more and earlier today the service director and were putting out the environmental mats to try and filter and catch the amount of water from going into the catch-basins. To provide relief to the residents

Discussion: cont.

and think this is the best thing the city can do until we can pull off the project for flooding.

Madam Coyne stated will put this to Council and fighting for my residents.

Mayor Orcutt agreed with fighting for the residents and if we start moving \$100,000.00 here and there what actually is the rescue plan. Right now the thing we know that the engineer has told us is to build relief at Wedo Park to start and then at Wengler. Think this can be done at a cost less than originally thought and those talks will happen tomorrow. Also, think that hopefully the city will be able to pull off for a couple of thousand dollars a year and get reimbursed for that that rather than millions of dollars originally projected.

Mr. Poindexter stated I think the Councilwoman makes some good points and thinks legislation should be brought forward in the very near future. To the Mayor will this new program include residents that have received this before; will they be eligible or ineligible.

Mayor Orcutt responded if they have received this in the past I don't see why they can't receive again. This program has been around for a couple of years and may repeat if they need the help; then the city should be able to help them. Roofs and driveways are currently expensive and if original homeowners have lived here for 60 years and don't have a lot of money I think the city should be able to help them.

Mr. Poindexter continued reason for asking is the economic development commissioner stated there are 13 people interested so far. I wouldn't want to see someone who has received HMAP funding in the past be considered over someone who has never received before. The legislation reads first-come, first-serve and residents may not know how to get the funding. Seeing how appropriated \$50,000.00 the legislation is proposed to give grants up to \$5,000.00, that's ten people. If somebody gets cut off due to not knowing the process and someone else may get it because they are a little savvy on the process, that has received it before.

Mayor Orcutt responded doesn't mean every project will be \$10,000.00 there could be a front stoop for \$3,000.00 at a 50/50 split; city paying \$1,500.00 and homeowner paying \$1,500.00.

Mr. Troyer stated likes the legislation including fund 243 listed in the first 'Whereas; would like to know what the changes are.

Mr. Marnacheck interjected there are not too many changes.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Troyer disagreed it's twice the money and as I'm seeing in section one 5-D loan wasn't changed to grant.

Mr. Marnacheck stated that is in the 2015 or 2019 legislation.

Mr. Troyer continued loan was changed to grant in the 2019-2020 legislation.

Mayor Orcutt stated in past legislation this was a loan program combination. The other change is changing the 2022 income guidelines.

Mr. Marnacheck stated the loan program was not run in 2019.

Mr. Troyer clarified the income guidelines are changed?

Mr. Marnacheck looking at the 2019 application they did include the income guidelines that have been updated to the 2022 dollar amounts, on the application. The spirit is to help the residents with repairs.

Mr. Troyer stated liked the change to loan program not taking from one resident to another, have no problem with helping someone out. Concurred with both Councilmembers Poindexter and Coyne for flooding being separate. The intent for this was to help with exterior issues and as fixed and repaired brings the whole neighborhood up. Furnaces shouldn't be on here because that doesn't help the residents' property value with getting a new furnace. The thing with having a loan is they're making no payment but will be paid back when house is sold.

Mr. Marnacheck asked you're looking at an assessment?

Mr. Troyer responded however you want to put it. It's still borrowed and goes on the tax duplicate for the city to recoup and put back into the program. Don't like the furnaces that does the neighborhood no good with a new purchase. Want to help people out but don't want to take from one neighbor to another neighbor without clawing some of it back.

Mayor Orcutt stated HMAP the objective is to clean up the neighborhoods to increase property values and think this program benefits the community as a whole. Would like to have more money in this program but with the impact of HB 157 bringing this back at \$50,000.00. Once the city knows more about the taxes, in the future, this can possibly be extended and if it's only ten projects that's better than zero.

Mr. Scott asked Mr. Marnacheck how many residents were helped last year?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Marnacheck responded none.

Mr. Scott asked how many in 2019?

Mr. Marnacheck responded 12 applied with five making it through the process; three in 2019 and two in 2020 due to construction delays.

Mr. Scott continued let's look at last year to this year, last year the city helped zero and this year is \$50,000.00, agree with Mayor Orcutt it's a start. Is \$50,000.00 enough? No, there will never be enough monies, could be \$200,000.00, that still wouldn't be enough but there could be a possibility of putting more monies into this program next year. This program is for residents to have some type of relief.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Marnacheck all these applicants are from the last few months?

Mr. Marnacheck concurred.

Mr. Troyer requested the name and address of the individuals because it's somewhat curious that there is that many for a new program. Also suggested having so many per ward.

Mr. Marnacheck responded it's not in my opinion that many; I'm referencing an article from 2019 when my predecessor stated he was contacted by 14; so it seems to be in line for this time of year.

Madam Coyne stated also have to take into account people are humble and won't ask especially. This could be done economically to help people in the way of giving move money with a better way of doing this. Also, have to take COVID-19 into effect where people don't have the money and are humble and won't ask. Maybe the city could reach out to the people including veterans that don't know or ask about this in some way?

Mr. Marnacheck responded the building department will be including information with notices for individuals to know how to rectify.

Mr. Vecchio stated to Mayor Orcutt you stated the re-implementing of the sidewalk program. Could that not be included with the residents' portion, if they are struggling?

Mayor Orcutt responded that is up to Council to amend but it's never been part of the program. Willing to offer equal to or less than contractors would do this.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Vecchio continued with this being a grant program economically challenged residents' cited for sidewalks that are considered home maintenance.

Mayor Orcutt responded in section one, number five that could be done by removing the last five words.

Mr. Salvatore commented as one of the original sponsors this was a great program then and is now; \$50,000.00 is not too much money to invest. Follows the federal income guidelines for the people that need the help are being attracted to this program. The flooding program is a stand-alone program. This is a grant program not a loan and was tweaked from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00, construction costs are through the roof. Hoping possibly in September there may be extra monies and this shouldn't be tied to the 50/50 split sidewalk program, that would be very hard to do.

Mr. Troyer asked Mr. Marnacheck if these applicants have been cited by building department?

Mr. Marnacheck concurred and responded all applicants have been cited by the building department.

Mayor Orcutt stated that two people have called to see if this program will be starting, the building department is providing information to the residents, when cited.

Mr. Troyer stated would like to wording limited to only violations, not as a result of a violation but considered a violation, sidewalk would.

Mayor Orcutt stated the roof may not look as being a violation.

Mr. Vecchio stated it is a violation of the city code, if the roof is leaking.

Mr. Mencini stated don't know if we want to get into violations, don't know if this was created for that, would assist the person that was cited. There are four things written down flooding, streets, walls of the pool and businesses that are talked about and having studies. These four things didn't happen yesterday, ten years ago, they have been long-term problems and we need to move forward. Flooding is a good thing to look at and the walls need to be done and need action, the walls and need to take move forward.

Mr. Poindexter stated just because questions are asked doesn't mean not in support of this program; just making sure monies are going to the people that need it the most. People that haven't used this program before should be at the top of the line. If there are still residents that need help after the \$50,000.00 is expended and more applicants

Discussion: cont.

on the list colleagues and I will find more funding. Agrees with excluding furnaces due to having nothing to combat blight, does understand needing heat in winter months and safety concern but if this is done for property values and help the neighborhood, possibly have another program for that. Am in 100% support of this program and likes the idea of tying it to a (home) title when the property is sold to revamp those monies. No issue with the legislation as it stands.

Mr. Salvatore stated the furnace was added, not in the original legislation, specific for one incident and don't know if it came to fruition for the purchase of the furnace. Mr. Poindexter stated would like to see the application attached to the legislation for federal guidelines or have them included in the legislation.

Mr. Troyer thanked Mr. Salvatore and stated don't remember this being geared for one person for a furnace, if so wouldn't have voted not good government. With the \$50,000.00 this could be repeated multiple times and some residents could get a roof, furnace and many other updates and then sell the property for a profit. This has to be for someone that really needs it and sell for a profit and revamp those money as an assessment. Furnaces don't help the neighborhood and a senior could get a reverse mortgage and stay in their home forever. Don't want to use other residents' money for family members to move in or sell.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Roberts, this was discussed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Roberts, Mencini, Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Mencini, to go out of the regular order of business to the Planning Committee.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

PLANNING COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, TROYER:

1. REQUEST PROJECT APPROVAL FOR THE POWER AND LIGHTING DESIGN OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK'S CENTRAL PARK COMPLEX. Agent: Pam Heberman of Makovich & Pusti Architects.

Pamela Heberman
Makovich & Associates, Architects
111 Front Street
Berea, OH

Ms. Heberman provided a quick overview of the project stating this is for the Brook Park lighting master plan for the central park complex. Within the northeast corner of Sylvia Drive and Engle Road there is a gazebo, amphitheater, library and proposed restrooms. This project would be to provide lighting and power.

Planning Committee - Chairman, Troyer: cont.

Marian Perez
Osborn Engineering
1100 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland

Ms. Perez stated she is the lighting designer for the project for the streets and new exercise area. The site pole would be heavy black aluminum vandal-finish and will have a low glare for residents in the area. Also there is a cost included to have hangars on the poles for basket hangars or banners. The Brook Park sign will be illuminated in color-changing light that would be reassessed in the front of the sign and be controlled through a lighting control storage room in the proposed restrooms. For the gazebo we are proposing a pendant to replace the light in the middle of the gazebo that can be color-changed for the seasons or be white. Also, proposing marquee color-changing lights to wrap around the bottom of the gazebo roof. All lighting will be LED and the life expectancy is a five-year warranty and over 100,000 hours.

Mark Bloom
Professional Engineer
Osborn Engineering
1100 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland

Mr. Bloom provided details of the new utility transformer pole for the area for power distribution for the new proposed lighting of the gazebo, amphitheater, restrooms and Brook Park script sign. There is also lighting coming out of the concession stand for the new outside new fitness area.

Madam Coyne asked Mr. Cingle how will the city pay for this?

Mayor Orcutt responded this project began in September, 2021 by predecessor and will be paid through NOPEC funding received over the last two years.

Mr. Troyer stated the electric is all part of the plan and mentioned that the Planning commission voted unanimously for approval. The light poles will include outlets for Christmas lighting, the control panel will be in the proposed restroom and the gazebo will have color-changing lighting.

Mr. Mencini asked if there is any area around here to look at for this proposed plan?

Ms. Perez responded not in this area, Seattle Washington, also there will be motion sensors from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. unless movement is sensed then the back up to 100%.

Planning Committee - Chairman, Troyer: cont.

Mr. Troyer thanked everyone for coming.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Roberts, to have proper legislation drafted and placed on next Council agenda.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Roberts, Mencini, Salvatore, Troyer, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Mencini, to go back to regular order of business.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, SCOTT:

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 163 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED 'TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE' AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Poindexter.

Mr. Poindexter stated this legislation is for how this committee will operate.

Mr. Troyer questioned the wording on page two.

Mr. Poindexter clarified letter e.

Mr. Troyer concurred.

Mr. Poindexter responded during COVID-19 there was no meeting in January to change the roles, the first meeting took place in February; this could be changed to Organizational meeting.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Madam Coyne, to place on the next regular Council agenda.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Coyne, Scott, Mencini, Roberts, Poindexter, Salvatore
NAYS: Unanimous.

2. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO PROVIDE ADJUSTMENTS IN COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY, OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS OR THOSE COVERED UNDER NEGOTIATED LABOR CONTRACTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Poindexter.

Finance Committee - Chairman, Scott: cont.

Mr. Poindexter stated the only amendment is to include this committee on the last line of the salary schedule.

Madam Coyne thanked Mr. Poindexter for bringing this forward and proposed an amendment to section 131-0 - COE position as office clerk with a minimum of zero (\$0) and maximum of zero (\$0). Reason why during budget talks met with Mayor Orcutt who assured me this position would not be filled. Then at previous Council President Vecchio and Councilman Troyer were told the position would be temporarily filled. Would like to repeal section 131.07 as the Mayor further indicated the person in this position was seeking part-time work. Section 131.0 does not exist unless someone is going back to school and back in 1960 this position was created for part-time clerical. Mayor also assured me no adjustments would be necessary to the minimum or maximum and no paid benefit with this being a part-time position. Dismayed to find out the compensation is \$30,000.00 as well as approximately \$20,000.00, are there any other part-time positions that have that?

Mayor Orcutt responded to Madam Coyne there is no one in the COE position of assistant office clerk. Per the ordinance the duties of the CEO office clerk shall be assigned by the Mayor and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. There is no one in this COE position this being a value to the community. With the benefits and conversation of who is employed will reiterate that under this administration this city is operating at a reduced cost of \$166,240.00 of overall salaries and benefit packages. Asked Council not to amend and wipe out to zero.

Madam Coyne asked Madam Horvath for assistance with the correct definition of this position. When doing research this position was to be a temporary position for high-school students.

Madam Horvath stated there was a discussion to eliminate and maybe when passed this provided assistance for both the city and young people. I would like to draw up a companion piece to amend the salary schedule for Council to review and possibly eliminate that position

Madam Coyne stated to Mayor Orcutt if you want someone in that position please use for a high-school student. Want things done with and this differs a little with the temporary clerk position.

Mayor Orcutt responded will always get integrity at that meeting I said this is a little personal between two individuals.

Finance Committee - Chairman, Scott:

Madam Coyne stated don't think this personal at all this is not personal when it comes to me, I just like the truth and keep it as it is. You can't put someone that is not a high-school student in this position.

Mayor Orcutt reiterated there is no one in that position.

Madam Coyne questioned why is the position on here?

Mr. Poindexter interjected this was brought forward to include the technology and innovative committee. During budget talks the Mayor mentioned he would be bringing proposed amendments to the salary schedule in July. Prefer not making any other amendments except for Innovative & Technology committee.

Mr. Scott concurred.

Mr. Mencini stated when talking about positions being moved I have seen things work with well with positions and salaries. The Mayor is entitled to what he needs and will give him that six months to explain.

Mr. Roberts concurred with giving the Mayor six months to bring out salaries, deserves that time.

Madam Coyne stated I want the Mayor to do his job just want clarification and answers to questions. Until an amendment is made to the COE schedule there is no position. The Mayor can have any staff member needed but can't put someone in a position that it's not appropriated for.

Mayor Orcutt reiterated no one is in that position

Mr. Troyer clarified that the Mayor would bring this back in August but think Council voted to bring up in June or July. Did question this because don't like things being unknown and this is unknown. Don't want to stop any progress the Mayor is doing and would ask the Mayor to bring the proper legislation to fit what a person is hired for.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Madam Coyne, to place on the next Council agenda under first reading.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Coyne, Scott, Salvatore, Poindexter, Roberts, Mencini

NAYS: Unanimous.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - CHAIRWOMAN, COYNE:

1. A RESOLUTION URGING OUR RESIDENTS TO ENROLL THEIR STUDENTS IN BEREA CITY SCHOOLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Poindexter, C/W and Mayor Orcutt.

Mr. Poindexter stated after hearing some discussions the title may be a little harsh.

Mr. Mencini stated in support of schools and parents have a choice and far be it from us to tell a parent what to do with their child, up to the parent. Will encourage them and believe overall the school system does a good job. Does have a problem with the word 'urging'; possibly use 'encouraging or consider', also in Section 1.

Mr. Poindexter stated would not push someone with what to do with their child. When bringing this legislation forward maybe use 'recommend' and would never push someone with what to do with their child but just think when parents decide to go outside of the district, the Berea school district already has. I have one child that graduated from Berea-Midpark and one child still attending. The Berea school district has some issues that are not exclusive to our district but in all communities that are either social media based or bullying. A strong school systems are the cornerstone of the communities and to keep the school district means keeping the district financially strong with state and property tax funding within the district. When parents choose to send students outside the district, even though they live in the district, those monies are routed to that chosen school. I stand by the content of the legislation and am open to removing the word 'urging' and use encouraging or a softer tone word, heart of legislation good and should support schools.

Mr. Salvatore stated this is a decent resolution and agree with removing the word 'urging' to possibly and suggested 'in support' of parents sending their children to Berea city schools. Also recommend the removal of the first 'Whereas' not relevant.

Mr. Troyer stated he has some other issues with this and stated the word 'urging' should be removed. Also, the fifth 'Whereas' has some very strong wording that should be adjusted. Would not remove the first 'Whereas' just change to read on January 19, 2022 a proclamation was read at a Council meeting. Fifth 'Whereas' would like to see removed.

Mr. Vecchio agrees with Councilmembers Salvatore and Troyer to remove the first 'Whereas' counterproductive with what we're trying to do. Think the fifth 'Whereas' doesn't do any good with mention of public funding because there are so many things going on and as strongly worded as this is with state and public funding. Mr. Poindexter will take offense that we don't want to go to the residents with property taxes of \$0.6 cents on every dollar and \$0.63 going to the schools.

Mr. Poindexter interjected you would rather see that go to the private schools?

Mr. Vecchio continued the first portion is freedom of choice and for that reason if someone feels that another school is better suited for their child, that shouldn't be held against them.

Legislative Committee - Chairwoman, Coyne: cont.

Mr. Poindexter stated I don't disagree but that should not be at the public's expense, everyone has the opportunity to go to any school.

Mr. Vecchio stated everything we do is a public expense, we pay for a community college and library that not everyone goes to.

Mr. Poindexter interjected but everyone can, not everyone can go to a Catholic, 4-H school, boarding school or other school that are getting publicly funded collars. Everyone has the opportunity to go to the Berea city school district oaths taken to educate all students.

Mr. Vecchio stated every teacher takes an oath to educate all students.

Mr. Poindexter disagreed and stated teachers take an oath in their classroom but the public school system as a foundation takes an oath regardless of handicap, race, gender, etc. That's why public monies go to those foundations and it should but should not go to a private entity that can exclude people.

Mr. Vecchio stated a person should not have freedom of choice.

Mr. Poindexter responded absolutely should be able to send their child to any school they want but not at the public expense.

Mr. Mencini stated 'point of clarification' all we're doing is supporting the Berea city school district.

Mr. Roberts stated think we're splitting hairs with the wording, I have one child that graduated from the Berea city school district and one child still attending. If someone asked my opinion if the schools were good would have to say yes due to sending both children, there; would be an idiot for sending my children there if the schools were bad. If parents feel that somewhere else would better suit their child, then it's the parent's choice to send their children elsewhere. My thought is if you're going to buy a house in a city and not sure of the neighborhood. Go to the high school and look at the students coming out of that high school that will tell people the neighborhood they're moving into. Have no problem with encouraging parents to send their children to the Berea city school district but would never tell someone yes you should, that's the choice of a parent to make that decision.

Mr. Troyer stated in favor of freedom of choice, being America and all that stuff and would like to guarantee that the monies used for private schools is being used properly. One way to look at this is parents want the best for their children and if that is a private school, for whatever reason, that little money going to that private school helps keep the costs lower.

Legislative Committee - Chairwoman, Coyne: cont.

Mr. Mencini stated the reason Mr. Poindexter brought this out is due to the school choice that came out and people coming to the school board meeting and Brook Park being mentioned by a few speakers. Can to with 'in support of' in the title and section one and also if the fifth 'Whereas' also strong with the state funding because it categorizes all of us and can see both sides; I pay property taxes and don't have any children.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Troyer, to amend the title to read 'In support of our residents enrolling their students in the Berea City Schools.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Scott, Coyne, Poindexter
NAYS: Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to amend section one to read Council is in support of our residents enrolling their students in the Berea City Schools.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Salvatore, Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Scott, Coyne
NAYS: Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Mencini, to amend section four by removing the word 'urge' to read and for further reason to support our residents in enrolling their students in the Berea city school district.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

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

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Mencini, Roberts, Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

PLANNING COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, TROYER:

Moved by **motion** to earlier in the meeting.

SERVICE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, POINDEXTER:

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTING ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT(S) WITH THE LOWEST AND OR BEST BIDDER FOR DEMOLITION OF THE FORMER SUPER 8 MOTEL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Mayor Orcutt stated the city has taken possession of the Super 8 hotel on Snow Road and the building is not structurally sound and needs to be demolished. This legislation allows for the engineer to prepare plans, specifications and go out to bid.

Mr. Piatak stated this gets the process moving for the earliest opportunity for demolition. One thing would like to point out is there are some environmental testings that is not included in this legislation. That cost and abatements will be determined at a later date due to not being performed in the Euthenics office.

Service committee - Chairman, Poindexter: cont.

Mr. Troyer asked if there is a good number at one time the amount was \$2 million-dollars and after all said and done is there a good number for the cost?

Mr. Piatak stated do not have that need to speak with any contractors for determination of the environmental abatements. Not ever being in that facility don't want to say what it's going to cost.

Mr. Troyer expressed that's the problem with passing this and not knowing the cost.

Mayor Orcutt stated that's the reason for going out to bid.

Mr. Troyer continued Council is giving authority on an amount, not knowing what it is.

Mayor Orcutt stated a limit was put in the budget of \$500,000.

Mr. Troyer clarified for the record half-million dollars.

Mr. Vecchio stated point of information to city engineer or Mayor Orcutt, weren't there some preliminary amounts of either \$250,000 or \$300,000 a few years ago?

Mayor Orcutt stated some time ago, there was one bid at \$243,000 and a second bid at \$289,000 that did not include environmental testing, just for the rough grade.

Mr. Vecchio asked if the blacktop will be left?

Mr. Piatak responded will disconnect the utilities, leave the storm sewers and the contractor will leave the blacktop until the day of leaving then remove. Once we get into this will be talking with contractors to gauge the market and do research. Any bid I've prepared includes an engineer's estimate, that is public record, for public information. Once we have the specifications a cost will be developed and probably the market will dictate the publishing of the engineer's estimate.

Mayor Orcutt requested Council to place on the special Council meeting immediately, reason being this building has to be razed as soon as possible. Also, working with the city's insurance company they asked to be torn down immediately due to being a liability.

Mr. Salvatore asked if all energies have been exhausted for grants for demolition purposes?

Mayor Orcutt responded no, Economic Development Commissioner Marnacheck has been working with the county for second or third rounds.

Service Committee - Chairman, Poindexter: cont.

Mr. Troyer stated all in favor of tearing down as soon as possible and the longer it takes the more it costs.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Mencini, to move to the special Council meeting immediately following.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Mencini, Roberts Poindexter, Salvatore, Coyne, Scott

NAYS: Unanimous.

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

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Coyne, Scott, Troyer, Salvatore, Poindexter, Roberts

NAYS: Unanimous.

Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


Carol Johnson
Clerk of Council

APPROVED June 7, 2022

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