

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, June 6, 2023
7:30 P.M.**

A. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MAY 9, 2023.
2. CAUCUS PRIOR MEETING MINUTES HELD ON May 16, 2023.
3. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES HELD ON May 16, 2023.

D. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Aviation & Environmental Committee – Chairman, Poindexter
Finance Committee - Chairman, Scott
Legislative Committee - Chairwoman, Coyne
Parks & Recreation Committee - Chairman, Mencini
Planning Committee - Chairman, Troyer
Safety Committee - Chairman, Roberts
Service Committee - Chairman, Poindexter
Board of Zoning Appeals - Chairman, Salvatore

E. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Southwest General Health Center Trustee, Mencini
Berea Board of Education Representative, Coyne
Technology & Innovation Council Representative, Poindexter

F. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

G. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION:

1. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 5TH-6TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "A" CHAMPIONS "CAVALIERS".
2. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 5TH-6TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "B" CHAMPIONS "PISTONS".
3. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "A" CHAMPIONS "THUNDER".
4. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "A" CHAMPIONS "PELICANS".
5. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "B" CHAMPIONS "ROCKETS".
6. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS "FALCONS".
7. A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2023 1ST-2ND GRADE COED BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS "CELTICS".

- H. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

- I. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS, AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS:**

- J. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS, AND VERBAL APPROVAL: (INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION):**

- K. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS:**
1. BUILDING COMMISSIONER- JASON MONACO

- L. **REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY SUBJECT MATTER:**

- M. **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:**

- N. **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- O. **THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- NOTE: EXECUTIVE SESSION- PURCHASE AND SALE OF PROPERTY – MAYOR ORCUTT**

- P. **ADJOURNMENT:**

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TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023**

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, ROBERTS, POINDEXTER, SALVATORE TROYER, SCOTT

Councilwoman Coyne was excused. Also in attendance were Mayor Orcutt, Law Director Horvath, Assistant Finance Director Maykut, Service Director Beyer, Recreation Program Coordinator Colonna, Safety Director Sensel, and Assistant Building Commissioner Monaco.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. CAUCUS PRIOR MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MAY 16, 2023.
2. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MAY 16, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Roberts, to approve both sets presented.

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

NAYS: Troyer

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to move out of regular order of business to item G.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION:

1. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 5TH-6TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "A" CHAMPIONS "CAVALIERS".
2. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 5TH-6TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "B" CHAMPIONS "PISTONS".
3. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "A" CHAMPIONS "THUNDER".
4. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION "B" CHAMPIONS "PELICANS".
5. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 3RD-4TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS "ROCKETS".
6. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS "FALCONS".
7. A PROCLAMATION HONORING 2023 1ST-2ND GRADE COED BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS "CELTICS".

Mayor Orcutt, Council President Vecchio, and Recreation Program Coordinator Danny Colonna presented the proclamations to the teams and coaches and Mayor Orcutt expressed congratulations for a successful season.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Troyer, to take a five minute recess.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

Council President stated that there will be a five minute recess and reconvene at 8 p. m.

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Council President reconvened the meeting and continued by honoring the Pelican Basketball Team as they joined the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Poindexter, to move back to regular order of business.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Aviation & Environmental Committee – Chairman, Poindexter

No report.

Finance Committee - Chairman, Scott

Mr. Scott reported that the Board of Control met and there were 24 items on the agenda. He reported three of the largest items:

Item 1. Contract P. O. Vendor authorizing the Mayor to enter into a project agreement with NEORSO for the Sheldon Road Profile Raising and Bridge replacement design including advertising \$1,175,945 which will be reimbursed.

Item 2. Contract P. O. Vendor authorizing the Director of Public Service to advertise for bids for the Mayor to enter into a contract for the 2023 equipment and general pavement services program including inspector and advertising fees \$21,350.

Item 3. Ports Petroleum Co., Inc. Gas & Diesel Fuel \$50,000.

Legislative Committee - Chairwoman, Coyne

No report

Parks & Recreation Committee - Chairman, Mencini

Mr. Mencini reported on the kids softball and boys baseball games. Football and cheer registrations are now until July 1st. Last Friday was the City's first drive-in movie which was well attended.

Planning Committee - Chairman, Troyer

Mr. Troyer reported that there were two items on the Planning agenda:

Item 1. A request approval for conditional use permit for short term leasing at 14126 Heatherwood Dr. located in the U1-A4 zoning district. This would also be considered an Airbnb. Planning unanimously voted it down with one abstention. This will come to Council next week at the Caucus meeting. Then Council will have legislation drawn up and Council will make the decision on it. The packet should be sent to Council through the Building Department by tomorrow.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES: cont.

Item 2. A request esthetic project approval for the proposed addition at the Landing Strip Executive Club 16800 Brook Park Road, Located in the U7A zoning district. It was voted down with one abstention. The Planning Committee discussed this project request and decided it was not what they wanted for that area. There was no landscaping in the proposed project that reflected any esthetics. For this reason, a different version of the request may be resubmitted at a later time.

Safety Committee - Chairman, Roberts

No report.

Service Committee - Chairman, Poindexter

No report.

Board of Zoning Appeals - Chairman, Salvatore

Mr. Salvatore reported that there were items on the Board of Zoning agenda:

Item 1. The Public Library asked for an approval of a sign which was unanimously approved.

Item 2. Request for two variances located at 16800 Brook Park Road. One was a parking variance and the other was a facial construction that will be done on that building. They were both approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Southwest General Health Center Trustee, Mencini

Mr. Mencini reported about the retention of employees. The hospital's current vacancies are 110 registered nurse positions and 31 patient care associate positions. There is a 21 percent nurse vacancy rate, and the overall retention rate is 87 percent. In 2023, 108 positions were filled overall; 27 registered nurse positions and 23 patient care associate positions. Performance improvement, Revenue Enhancement was 10,600,000, Growth was 5,000,100 and Expenses reduction was 4,000,000. Mr. Mencini stated that hospital budgets can rapidly be depleted.

Berea Board of Education Representative, Coyne

No report.

Technology & Innovation Council Representative, Poindexter

Mr. Poindexter reported that the Technology & Innovation Committee met for the second time on May 23rd to review the proposal by Verdiom. They were among the companies invited to present their proposal for updating the website but they couldn't make it on that date. Three proposals were selected from the pool of submissions and they were Thunder Tech, Verdiom, and Civic Plus. All three

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: cont'd

companies presented well and were able to answer pertinent questions by the Committee members. In another meeting, the Tech Committee decided unanimously to choose Verdiom's proposal. Their presentation met more closely to the expectations of the type of website that the Committee wanted. The Company is local and in close proximity to the City of Brook Park. This company has quite a few unique services and the manager of the company met with the Committee to answer any additional questions about their services. They were also much more affordable than the other companies. Mr. Poindexter stated that he has the packet from Verdiom if anyone wanted to review it and that it is too early to give a launch date for the website but it could be sometime in the fall.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Orcutt reported that the Berea City School District, the Cities of Berea, Brook Park, and Middleburgh Heights will be conducting a three day full scale comprehensive safety drill on June 6, 7, and 8. On June 8, Brook Park Elementary Schools will have exercises involving various emergency services including local law enforcements, fire department, and medical personnel working in collaboration with the school district and their personnel. During these drills there may be an increase in emergency vehicles, personnel, and simulated emergency situations in and around Brook Park Elementary.

Mayor Orcutt asked for everyone's cooperation during these drills. The City has been awarded a grant through EPA for \$40,702.00 for new garbage cans in and around the municipal campus and all city parks. Mayor Orcutt thanked the Service Director, Brian Beyer and the Economic Development Commissioner, Paul Marnecheck for obtaining the grant for the city.

Mayor Orcutt gave updates on city projects including the Sheldon Water Main Replacement project. There have been no bids on this project as of May 23rd. The rebid process has been reinitiated and is administered by Engineer Ed Piatak and Middleburgh Heights' Engineer. The rebid proposals are due June 20th. The WEDO BASIN Project bid process is currently under way the Bids are due June 15th. The Brook Park Memorial Abatement and Demolition Project bid process is currently underway pre-bid site visit is June 20th and the bids are due June 29th.

The Picnic in the Park will be June 10th. There will be food, games, inflatables, prizes and music at the Amphitheater between 12 p. m. and 4 p. m.

Questions:

Mr. Salvatore asked Mayor Orcutt if there was a start time for the safety exercises at Brook Park Elementary School.

Mayor Orcutt replied that he did not have a start time but he thinks it's an all-day event and he will provide an answer tomorrow.

Mr. Troyer asked if the Mayor was aware of a business making a complaint about the City on Facebook. Mayor Orcutt explained what happened with this situation and clarified the false accusation.

Mr. Troyer made a motion to broach this situation asking for a retraction and possible legal action against the business that made the false accusations.

Mayor Orcutt responded by saying that the Law Director may not have any information on this issue. In fact, he had only learned of this issue an hour before this meeting. The accusing Business did issue a retraction putting the blame on a specific unnamed individual that works for the City. The unnamed individual is assumed to be the Assistant Building Commissioner.

Mr. Mencini stated he spoke to the person from the business that put the accusation out there. He made it clear to that person that The City Council was not involved in the situation. He stated that residents think Council and Mayor should do things differently including meeting frequently to discuss and address city issues.

Mayor Orcutt responded by saying that there are always things from the previous administration that rolls over into the incoming administration. The Mayor office is always working to address as many issues as possible and is consistently working hard for the City. The Mayor has been meeting with Councilmen at various times to work on various issues and will always have an open door policy.

Mr. Mencini stated that there has been a great deal of hardworking effort within the administration to address the issues within the city but there is always room for improvement. He gave examples of retention from the Southwest General Hospital, the Service Garage, The Recreation Center, etc. The goal is to be a thriving community now and in the future.

Mayor Orcutt gave a rebuttal by stating that the country is facing inflation issues at an extremely high level. As a result, the increase in costs have made it very challenging for development and growth. Still, this Administration has not experienced a lot of turn over. Despite the challenges the nation is facing, this Administration has been working very hard and getting a lot done. Wherever there

is a hole in business the Administration has tries to fill it. The City has accomplished much and is steadily moving forward.

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

Law Director Horvath had no report.

Safety Director Sensel congratulated Captain Stopiak, Sargent Adam Goldenberg, FPO Brad Smith, and the Finance Director on their promotions last night. He welcomed the City's first Police Chaplain, William Giallourakis.

Property maintenance continues to be a high priority and in response to this issue, the inspectors are out inspecting properties every day. As a result, letters are being sent and citations are being issued. Be patient when submitting work orders because there is a huge amount of work orders to complete.

Thank you to Jason and the Building Department staff.

The City has switched over to a new City Safety forces testing Company called the National Testing Network. This is a new way to administer the City's Civil Service tests for entry level positons in the Police and Fire Departments. One of the Pros for using this Company is the cost, another is that it is nationwide so that a greater number of candidates can apply. It is a web-based testing company that is proctored. Those taking the test will be monitored through a webcam by the proctor.

Finance Director Maykut had nor report.

Assistant Recreation Director Colonna congratulated all of the teams and their coaches that were acknowledged with proclamations tonight. Football Cheer registration is currently underway. Please don't wait until the last the minute to register.

Additionally, Volleyball clinic is currently available on Tuesday nights during the months of June and July. Pickle ball is on Wednesday mornings and we will cater to groups of individuals including setting up nets for them as long as there is space in the gym.

It is the second week of Baseball and the weather has been cooperating. Thank you to the Service Director, Brian Beyer and the Mayor for the American Legion parking lot and the improvements that have been completed. The lighting issue at Plant Lane First Base side lights are up and running again. In this current social climate which you have possibly seen on social media, it has been very difficult to employ sports coaches and umpires because of the way that they have been treated lately. It is stressed to our coaches that we want a positive attitude on our fields. Our desire is to reinforce good fair play among coaches, players, and parents. I ask that parents at the games cheer for their teams and not against

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their teams. Let's promote a good environment for the kids participating in sports so they will have good memories as they move on to school sports.

Upcoming events include the Dive-in Movie on June 17th at the Water Park.

The Water Park is now open from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. Mon-Sun.

Summer hours for the Brook Park Recreation Center is 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Saturdays 8 A.M. to 2 P. M. and closed on Sundays.

Homes Days is coming up as well. It's a two day event and there are a number of registrations for some of the activities. Miss Brook Park Pageant participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible. The Pitch-Hit-& Run Contest registration will be coming up soon. This event will be held on the Friday night before Home Days. Those interested in participating in the Home Days parade please contact the Brook Park Recreation Center to complete a registration form.

Service Director, Brian Beyer reported that Bulk Pick-up begins next week on the regularly scheduled rubbish day. Council are encouraged to continue to submit work orders to the Service Dept. through the Mayor's Office. He acknowledged the American Legion Park for the work they performed in the park.

Assistant Building Commissioner, Jason Monaco had no report at this time.

QUESTIONS

Mr. Scott asked Mr. Sensel about the status on canine unit.

Mr. Sensel replied that the canine's handler and the canine is progressing well. There were 7 canines training today and the City's canine was among them and performed very well. Our canine graduates next Friday and will be operational after that.

Mr. Mencini addressed Mr. Sensel and acknowledged the swearing-in ceremony and its good turnout. The Fire Department did a tremendous job on a reported fire. The Police officer who took care of a certain situation also did a great job. Mr. Mencini also acknowledged the good job on the work orders for cutting the grass.

Mr. Troyer addressed Mr. Sensel by asking if anything is being done to prevent backyard fires since it has been so dry out and with fireworks coming soon.

Mr. Sensel responded that safety measures be taken if residents are going to have a bon fire. Check the Ordinances for what you need before having a bon fire or cooking fire. The Fire Prevention Officer will come out when needed but if you see something then say something.

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

No new legislation

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS:

1. BUILDING COMMISSIONER- JASON MONACO

Mayor Orcutt stated that most of Council have had the opportunity to meet and work with the Assistant Building Commissioner. Thank you to the Human Resource Commissioner, Mr. Rednour for selecting new talent for the City. Jason Monaco came in and filled the role in October 2022. The City lost its former Building Commissioner back in January. Retention is extremely hard and the City needs to be aware of by taking care of its employees. Nevertheless, through changeover with Mr. Monaco, the City has not skipped a beat. His resume is very impressive and since he's been in this position, he's been filling in as the Building Commissioner during the beginning of that vacancy. He is the best person for the job. Mayor Orcutt asked the Council for their approval for this appointment to make Jason Monaco the next Building Commissioner for the City of Brook Park.

Mr. Troyer asked Mr. Monaco if he could do actual in-plumbing inspections after the work is done.

Mr. Monaco responded that's correct.

Motion by Mr. Salvatore, supported by Mr. Mencini, to approve the appointment of Jason Monaco as the Building Commissioner for the City of Brook Park.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

Mr. Monaco thanked everyone for the opportunity granted to him as the new Building Commissioner. He has enjoyed working with everyone since the beginning. This is a special place to work.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY SUBJECT MATTER:

Albert Wolfe

5880 Wynwood Drive

Commended the work done by the Service Department in the American Legion Park.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

None.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None.

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None.

NOTE: EXECUTIVE SESSION- PURCHASE AND SALE OF PROPERTY – MAYOR ORCUTT.

Mr. Troyer asked to add PENDING LEGAL ACTION.

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Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Troyer, to go into executive session for PURCHASE AND SALE OF PROPERTY ALONG WITH PENDING LEGAL ACTION.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

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

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

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

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

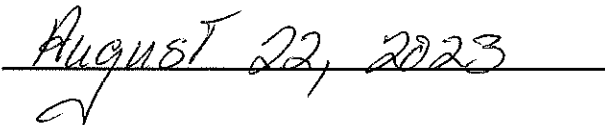
Council President Vecchio declared this meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Carol Johnson
Clerk of Council

APPROVED



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

