

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

I. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES HELD ON OCTOBER 10, 2023.

IV. DISCUSSION:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

In attendance: Paul Marnacheck, Commissioner of Economic Development.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE:

1. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE TAX REVENUES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF TAX LEVIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 321.34 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

VI. SAFETY COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, ROBERTS:

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO TRADE-IN POLICE EQUIPMENT AND/OR UNCLAIMED OR FORFEITED PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE BROOK PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.
2. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MANHEIM CLEVELAND AUTO AUCTION, PUBLIC AUCTIONEERS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUCTIONING FORFEITED VEHICLES AND A POLICE VEHICLE THAT IS NO LONGER IN SERVICE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

VII SERVICE COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, POINDEXTER:

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO TRADE-IN THE CITY'S OLD BOSCH SCAN TOOL, ASSET #11099, FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR OF SOFTWARE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

ADJOURNMENT:

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

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

TROYER, MENCINI, ROBERTS, SCOTT, SALVATORE

Also in attendance were Law Director Horvath, Interim Finance Director Maykut, Safety Director Sensel, Service Director Beyer and Economic Development Commissioner Marnacheck, Madam Coyne (7:08 p.m.).

Councilmember Poindexter and Council President Vecchio excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES HELD ON OCTOBER 10, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Roberts to approve as presented.

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

NAYS: Troyer.

DISCUSSION:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

In attendance: Paul Marnacheck, Commissioner of Economic Development.

Mr. Marnacheck reported a brief high-level update on economic development, first off the Forward Innovation Center there is a pause in the large-scale development with a possible project that Weston, DiGeronimo and Scannel Properties are evaluating that could operate a large portion of the property; Victory Packaging has moved into their new space. I continue to share with Jobs Ohio and Team Neo on leads as well as the Weston Group for potential development. Brookview (former school on Snow Road) we continue to work with Ryan Summers and his team on the design layout for the townhomes; currently in the due diligence period for the purchase of this project. With Blue Abyss Mayor Orcutt and I participated in a project meeting with John Vickers and Tom Chema and their engineering firms; an economic impact report is being generated which will assist in the completion of the capital stack. The French government is guaranteeing about 40% of the Capital stack and Mayor Orcutt is working to make sure the city has control of the land until surety of the project happening. This will insure the City of Brook Park is in control of development of the land. Currently, engineering is working on the design of the pool and space around the pool; for the pipes to allow maintenance and repair. The pool will have multiple currents depending upon the depth and remember this has never been designed anywhere in the world. I have connected the architect and engineering firms with the Cleveland International Airport to insure design elements are correct, given the proximity to the airport. Next topic is grants; the City of Brook Park has been awarded

Discussion:**Economic Development Marnacheck cont.**

approximately \$346,000.00 in grants and achieved the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA Recycling Grant securing \$40,782.00 for the purchase of 72 new recycling bins to be placed throughout the community and neighborhood parks. The city has been awarded \$15,000.00 from the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities with the assistance of Service Director Beyer. The city was awarded \$22,605.00 from the Edwards Memorial Grant Funds to purchase body-one camera equipment, thank you to Chief Powers and Captain Stopiak for their assistance. With the First Responders Retention Grant the city was awarded \$243,000.00 for ARPA Funds, thanks to Interim Finance Director Maykut and Madeline Krueger, this grant was somewhat challenging working through different requirements and reporting that needed to be submitted to the State of Ohio. The city received \$28,467.16 grant from the Ohio Bureau Workers' Compensation Safety Innovation Grant to purchase power patient stair chairs to assist the fire department personnel with getting patients up and down the stairs, thanks to Fire Chief Higgins and Mr. Rednour for their assistance. The city has applied for \$64,000.00 funding from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for a passenger van to enhance mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The city also applied to the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice body-worn camera grant in the amount of \$329,171.00 and have applied for \$5,000.00 for the Diamond Improvement Grant done by the Cleveland Guardians with the goal being to replace about 570' of fencing at American Legion Park's two (2) ball-diamonds. Unfortunately, the city was not awarded two (2) grants applied for with the AARP Community Challenging Grant in the amount of \$47,412.90 for the installation of outdoor workout equipment and \$40,000.00 NOPEC grant working with Audrey's Outreach to assist with the purchase of a new building. The city has at least two (2) grants looking to apply for a \$50,000.00 grant from the Community Development Supplemental Grant Fund and for \$200,000.00 in the Ohio EPA Recycle Grant Funds hopefully for the purchase of a new recycling truck. Two (2) more grants would like to give attention to is the City of Brook Park Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation the city applied for \$25,405.92 allowing the purchasing of new hoses, Chief Higgins and Lt. McCarthy were the primary contacts for this. Looking at the evaluation of the Brightening Ohio Community Grant to see what the city's requirement is for this grant. With the Home Maintenance Assistance Program (HMAP) seven (7) awarded applications have been completed; three (3) being windows, two (2) being roofs, one (1) application for a driveway and one (1) application for siding and gutters. So far, \$57,786.00 in total HMAP projects with \$26,199.00 in distributed funds remain in the fund of the original appropriated \$50,000.00. Two (2) applications are pending correction for exterior property violations; four (4) applications exceeded the income

Discussion:

Economic Development Marnacheck cont.

thresholds; one (1) application declined the award wanting to go with a different contractor, then the lowest contractor. One (1) applicant met the income guidelines and is currently gathering eligible quotes and five (5) applications have been mailed to residents, in the last four (4) weeks. My estimation is two (2) or four (4) residents may still be working on HMAP applications and three (3) to five (5) have declined once evaluating the program. Many thanks to the Building, Law and Tax Departments for their assistance with this program.

Questions:

Mr. Mencini thanked Mr. Marnacheck for coming and stated economic development is tough, still believe the city has a long way to go. Your job isn't easy and grants are great but the city can't live on grants, they won't get the city where we want to go. Driving through Brookgate believe it could be better as well as Snow and Smith Roads. What does the city have to do to pick up the pace and what is the city doing i.e. recruiting or sending out flyers to businesses to get them to come here; the Mayor made a great presentation on the demographics of the city. When in your office liked seeing businesses that want to come here, how is that going and what do we need to do to get businesses here?

Mr. Marnacheck responded great question, am actively working with Team Neo Leads Ohio who do a great job with leads and business expansion; if a lead comes in I am able to connect. With the Smith and Snow area, Education Alternatives is interested in expanding. With what is being done is meeting with businesses. There is a business on West 164th Street showing interest in doing some things but currently with the increase in interest rates; some businesses are sitting still to see where the rates go. Also am working with businesses for \$25,000.00 in grants for equipment or what is needed. My theory is it's easier to work with businesses currently in the city than bringing new businesses in.

Mr. Mencini continued good to hear about expansion, there is a major airport, rail and two (2) major freeways close to the city are those being used as a factor in recruiting; being used to the city's advantage when talking to companies?

Mr. Marnacheck responded yes.

Madam Coyne apologized for coming in late and thanked Mr. Marnacheck for the update. As far as the HMAP applications how many are completed projects?

Mr. Marnacheck responded seven (7) have been paid and completed; with the mortgage lien filed that is required by the legislation. There are a few others that are at various points of the process.

Questions to the Economic Development Commissioner:

Madam Coyne asked how many didn't meet the qualifications?

Mr. Marnacheck responded four (4) exceeded the income threshold.

Madam Coyne continued with the restrictions that are in place how many couldn't qualify?

Mr. Marnacheck responded no one made too little income.

Mr. Troyer requested a copy of the report given, and stated Victory Packaging is moving into Forward Innovation?

Mr. Marnacheck responded they have already moved into 221,000 square feet.

Mr. Troyer continued is that an expansion in the city?

Mr. Marnacheck responded would say yes, since they were formerly located on Keystone Parkway.

Mr. Troyer asked are there more employees?

Mr. Marnacheck responded yes, my understanding they have increased full-time employees.

Mr. Troyer continued with their former building was that leased or did they own it?

Mr. Marnacheck responded Weston, Inc. owns the former and current building and it is my understanding that Weston is looking to line up a new tenant to take over the former Victory Packaging space.

Mr. Troyer stated with Forward innovation that is at a slow period; are they still going to do the road?

Mr. Marnacheck clarified one (1) proposed large development, specific development, has been placed on pause. It is my understanding that Weston, DiGeronimo and Scannel are still continuing to work on other portions of the property.

Mr. Troyer questioned was that the one parcel in the back corner that was approved by the Planning Commission?

Mr. Marnacheck responded believe so, yes.

Questions to the Economic Development Commissioner: cont.

Mr. Troyer questioned if they are moving forward with the road?

Mr. Marnacheck responded that is my understanding.

Mr. Troyer continued with the Blue Abyss, believe the agreement was they had so many days to do the study and then buy the property or not? Did the city enter into some kind of different agreement, should have come to Council, if that was being extended; is Blue Abyss still a good possibility?

Mr. Marnacheck responded yes, spoke with members of the Blue Abyss team multiple times today and hope to bring this to fruition.

Mr. Troyer asked anything with the former Super 8 motel?

Mr. Marnacheck clarified with the 3.14 acres on Snow Road I continue to receive interest in the property and pass that along to the Mayor.

Mr. Salvatore with the project put on hold at Forward Innovation would that take the whole area; or would there be property left over?

Mr. Marnacheck responded would have taken a large portion but don't believe it was the remainder of the land, would have to look at the ratio.

Mr. Salvatore thanked Mr. Marnacheck for coming and stated would like a copy of the report for the Council office.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Madam Coyne, discussed.

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

1. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE TAX REVENUES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF TAX LEVIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 321.34 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Madam Maykut stated this is a housekeeping item, every year the city is requested by the Budget Commission to have a resolution drafted approving the advancement of property taxes to the City of Brook Park.

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

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

NAYS: Unanimous.

SAFETY COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, ROBERTS:

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO TRADE-IN POLICE EQUIPMENT AND/OR UNCLAIMED OR FORFEITED PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE BROOK PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Mr. Sensel stated with the firearms trade this will fund 16 new patrol rifles for the entire police fleet and police chief; fully accessorized along with additional parts and tools. The department will also receive 46 tourniquets the police officers carry on themselves. There will be a trade with no taxpayer dollars being spent.

Mr. Troyer stated this is a continuation from legislation from a few months ago?

Mr. Sensel the legislation from a few months back was never put forward due to finding more equipment and getting the best deal possible. Spoke with seven (7) different companies and this one came in as the best bid. Also, will save on shipping due to being able to drive the equipment to the company to make the trade.

Mr. Mencini stated for this to be done without cash is a great deal. Is this being looked at being done more often with other items?

Mr. Sensel responded yes, the department will be doing anything that can be done to avoid going to the taxpayers.

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

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

2. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MANHEIM CLEVELAND AUTO AUCTION, PUBLIC AUCTIONEERS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUCTIONING FORFEITED VEHICLES AND A POLICE VEHICLE THAT IS NO LONGER IN SERVICE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Motion by Mr. Roberts, supported by Mr. Troyer, to amend first Whereas by changing three (3) to four (4) and remove the word 'and' before GMC.

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

Mr. Roberts continued Section 3 also needs to be amended to include Capital Fund 401.

Safety Committee - Chairman, Roberts: cont.

Mr. Sensel explained the 2008 Crown Victoria was purchased with capital funds so those funds have to go back to that fund.

Mr. Troyer stated want to specify the amount going back to capital and other money going to Fund 270.

Madam Horvath stated prior to 2016 legislation didn't contain fund numbers finance department was trusted to put funds where they should go.

Madam Maykut stated the 2008 Crown Victoria was purchased with capital monies, taxpayers' funds, which is different from the forfeited Fund 270.

Mr. Salvatore stated to Madam Maykut even if there was no fund number included in the legislation, the finance department would put those monies back in the correct fund, that's the department's responsibility.

Madam Maykut concurred.

Mr. Salvatore the way this is presented is fine and the monies will go back to the correct fund.

Madam Maykut concurred.

Motion by Mr. Roberts, supported by Mr. Mencini, to amend Section 3 to include Capital Fund 401.

Mr. Troyer stated for the record, the funds for the police car will go into Fund 401.

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

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Madam Coyne, to place section 3, 4 and 5 in correct numerical order.

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

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Salvatore, to place on the next Council agenda - first reading.

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

SERVICE COMMITTEE - CO-CHAIRWOMAN COYNE

1. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO TRADE-IN THE CITY'S OLD BOSCH SCAN TOOL, ASSET #11099, FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR OF SOFTWARE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Mayor Orcutt.

Mr. Beyer stated this is an obsolete diagnostic tool that will be traded in for a new one, included in the 2023 budget under tools and shop equipment, and also includes an additional free one-year update value of \$1,600.00.

Mr. Mencini asked Mr. Beyer what did the department have prior to this?

Mr. Beyer responded a Bosch scan-tool that plugs into vehicles to find out what is wrong with the vehicle and reiterated the additional one-year update.

Mr. Troyer stated not seeing this in the Capital Budget, is it listed somewhere else?

Mr. Beyer responded (Fund) 409 Mechanics Tool and Shop Equipment - \$15,000.00.

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

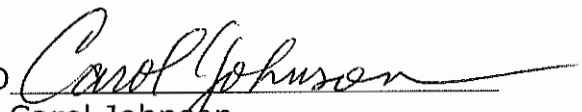
ROLL CALL: AYES: Salvatore, Mencini, Roberts, Troyer, Coyne, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

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

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

Council President Salvatore Pro-Tem declared this meeting adjourned at 7:47 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.