

# COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD June 5, 2018 20

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on June 5, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Michael Procuk presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

Present at roll call:	Councilmen:	Foote, Lasky, Presot, Walsh
	Mayor:	Procuk
	Clerk/Treasurer:	Frank
	Law Director:	Dowling
	Engineer:	Henry
	Police Chief:	Algeri
	Fire Chief:	FF Chalfant
	Service Director:	Hatgas
	Bldg. Commissioner:	Monaco
	Comm. Service Dir:	Guilfoyle
	Recreation Dir:	excused

- First meeting with Aaron Frank as Clerk/Treasurer
- Vacancy on council – to be filled within 30 days from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- **MOTION: Mrs. Presot moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2018 regular council meeting as distributed. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion carried 4-0**

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Request received from the Blue Wave Swim Team for \$30 reimbursement per swimmer for the 2018 season. Council will entertain this when the season is over.
- Chief Algeri wants council and the public to know that Suburban Maintenance Co will begin rehab of the Granger Road bridge over I-480 for ODOT on June 11<sup>th</sup>. This will be patching and not a deck replacement. Advising that there will be lane closures on Granger Road.
- CHS Girls Varsity Soccer Coach is requesting the use of our soccer fields in the fall. She will work with Narlin due to the number of kids in our program and time constraints due to darkness in the fall.
- Mayor Procuk read a letter of thanks from the Garfield Heights Fire Department for our assistance in fighting a fire in their community on May 14<sup>th</sup>. He commended our department on their super attitude from start to finish and their professionalism. Firefighters were: Capt. Patrick Cannon, FF Patrick Goldsworth, FF Kurtis Ziebold, FF Mike Sidor, FF Jacob Prebich and FF David Bronza.

Mayor Procuk then swore in Jeremy Dzik as a Sergeant in the Police Department. Congratulations Jeremy! Chief Algeri said Jeremy is a 20 year veteran of our department and has volunteered to be the property officer and most recently volunteered to join the newly formed Mobile Field Force Unit with the Southwest Enforcement Bureau for civil disturbances. Jeremy thanked Mayor Mike and his family.

### POLICE CHIEF

- **MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Axon Enterprise Inc. \$1,110 for the Taser Assurance Plan for 6 Tasers. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 4-0**
- **MOTION: Mr. Foote moved to pay Firehawk Automotive \$1,280.33 for repairs to one of the Chargers. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion carried 4-0**
- Chief Algeri asked for a motion to pay Clancy Associates \$5,720 for the Sergeant Promotional Process and said that \$7,000 was in the budget for this. Law Director Dowling said he would

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need an ordinance since it is over \$5,000. This will be up for consideration at the next regular meeting of council.

- **MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Sundance Systems \$1,260 to add vehicle tracking to the current software package. Second by Mr. Foote Motion carried 4-0**
- **MOTION: Mrs. Presot moved to pay A & S Animal Control \$1,059.80 for May. Second by Mr. Lasky Motion carried 4-0** *Note: We should be reimbursed \$469.80 for housing the two pit bulls after an attack on Dorset. This case will go to Parma Court.*
- Chief Algeri advised council that Car 15 is out of service with 109,000 miles on it and they will be working a car down.
- The Mobil Field Force unit will be a fifty man riot control unit and SEB received fifth riot control suits from the City of Cleveland that were a part of the Republican National Convention that was held in Cleveland.
- Received and read a letter from Special Counsel Patrick DiChiro regarding the Walsh v Lahiff case. He also read a letter from Councilman Walsh and this matter is now put to rest. (attached)

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Mrs. Guilfoyle introduced the Senior Olympians who competed in the Senior Olympics and won a total of twenty-seven medals. The seniors are: Dolores Brzuziewski, Margaret Allen, Jane Heyduk, Marilyn Haubrich, Lorraine Saffron, Gloria Ashworth, Irene Winslow, Chuck Skoczen, Ray Mehalko, John Spilka and Walter Allen, who received recognition as the oldest male participant at the age of 90. He will be 91 in July, 2018.

### CHS BEST REPORT

- Superintendent Tom Evans introduced the BEST Committee which is six years old. He spoke about the Continuous Improvement Plan. The committee is made of up members of council, community, students and staff.
- CHS is in the top 10% of every metric used to rate school systems.
- Athletics are superior
- Arts & Music is outstanding – Mrs. Jane Pittman will be retiring at the end of this school year and they are interviewing for orchestra leaders.
- Mr. Evans introduced Board President, Gary Suchocki who said that three of the board members are Brooklyn Heights residents and that the board is united to improve the district using the BEST Committee.
- Mr. Suchocki then introduced Mr. Jim Zwisler who went over the *attached* Strategic Plan.
- Mrs. Pech said that they are looking for new members for the committee. Please contact Mr. Evans.
- Mr. Evans said that this summer they will be putting together a Business Advisory Council. Any business in the three communities that would like to be a part of the council is welcome to join by contacting him. The hope is that this will introduce the students to the businesses that are in our communities and lead to possible internships with them.
- Mayor Procuik wished Jane Pittman well and said that she will be difficult to replace. He also acknowledged the passing of Mrs. Augustine.

### UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

- Dean DiPiero said they are here to talk about the happenings at Parma University Hospital and introduced President Peter Bergman.
- Mr. Bergman said that UH operates in fifteen counties, has eighteen hospitals and fifty healthcare facilities with 28,000 employees making them the largest primary care organization in the community.



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- His main focus is access to care in the community and they are bringing downtown care to the local community.
- Parma UH has 1,351 employees
- 2017 – they invested \$13 million in the 57 year old building
- 2018 – they are waiting for approval of a \$27 million OR renovation
- They have renovated the building from the 9<sup>th</sup> floor down to the lobby.
- They have opened “Super Track” in the ER
- They have recruited several new doctors

### AUDIENCE

None

### SERVICE DIRECTOR

- Low bid was Cargill at a cost of \$58.71 per ton. This is an increase of \$6.42 per ton. Another change to the contract is that we can only purchase 140% of what our proposed tonnage for the year is; which is 650 tons. We must purchase at least 80% of the 650 tons.  
Last purchasing cycle we ordered 975 tons of salt and the actual we received was 888.85 tons.
- If we go outside to purchase salt they do not have to reimburse us.
- The ODOT bid was \$64.76 a ton which is \$6.05 more than the Cargill bid.
- Mr. Hatgas has some potential locations to store salt if the winter is mild and we have to store it.
- Mr. Dowling will draw up an ordinance.
- Mayor Procuk said the flowers on the island are beautiful but what are we doing at the Community Center. Mr. Hatgas said renovations. Mayor Procuk asked for details and Mr. Hatgas responded that it is in beautification mode.

### SOCCER COMMISSIONER

- Soccer season ended on May 19<sup>th</sup>
- Fall soccer registration will begin soon and end on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Everyone must register even if they played last season.

### RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Mayor Procuk read a report from Dale.
  - Games have begun
  - T-Ball started on Saturday
  - Thanked Ed and the Service Department for a great job on the fields
  - **MOTION: Mrs. Presot moved to pay Steve's Sports \$4,694 for uniforms, coach's shirts, umpire shirts, scorebooks, and umpire clickers. Second by Mr. Walsh**  
**Motion carried 4-0**
  - Cost is about \$26 per set

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Art-in-the-Park will begin June 18<sup>th</sup>. It is a redesigned program
- Safety Town and Summer School transportation will begin on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to the Fire Department for installing the car seats for the Safety Town attendees
- The bus will transport resident's downtown on June 30<sup>th</sup> for the “Star Spangled Spectacular” with the Cleveland Orchestra on Mall C.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

- **MOTION: Mr. Foote moved to get a Purchase Order for Underwriters Lab for the annual ground ladder testing not to exceed \$2,000. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 4-0**

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- The Fire Department was awarded a \$12,000 grant from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation for an extractor and fire hoods for each firefighter. Mayor ProcuK thanked Capt. Brett Stanislaw for his hard work in obtaining this grant.

### ENGINEER

- Dominion is working on North Street and there is an inspector on scene. If there are any issues please let Mike or Ed know to get them resolved?
- The Concrete & Asphalt bids were opened and will be on the agenda on June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Valley Belt project is out for bid and will be on the July 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda
- The Community Development supplemental grant agreement will be ready for signing in July and then we will move forward with the design and go out for bids.
- The Nature Works grant was submitted. It will be for a splash pad, tennis court and surfaces on the upper park.
- The County Planning Commission told us to come back next year. Mr. Henry wants to find out who the money was awarded to.

### BUILDING INSPECTOR

- New company – 707 Brookpark Rd #101 Title Company – Great Lakes Closing
- 4800 Van Epps – Plain Dealer is in and no issues to date
- 240 Tuxedo is scheduled for demolition in the next few weeks and a new building is to be built on the site. *Note: At time of typing, the building is down and lot cleaned up*
- 4913 Van Epps will have a complete remodel. It will be occupied by the owner with a car repair on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and offices on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- New building and landscaping is complete at 1319 E. Schaaf Road
- Point of Sale inspections:
  - 298 Little Creek Parkway
  - 238 E. Schaaf Road
  - 5055 West 5<sup>th</sup> St
  - 5079 West 5<sup>th</sup> St
  - 5091 Wes 5<sup>th</sup> St
- No Rental inspections this month
- Ten grass violation notices and all have been remedied.
- Seven Hill Planning Commission has turned down the building request on Belmont Dr. due to the number of variances requested
- He met with Councilwoman Presot to discuss the fence ordinance. The will meet again and then take their decision to the Building Committee.

### LAW DIRECTOR

- Mr. Dowling made a presentation to the Community Reinvestment committee at the county regarding the two FOGG properties still on the program. The county voted to terminate the agreement since they are in substantial compliance.

### CLERK/TREASURER

- Mr. Frank thanked John Black, Dana and Valerie for their assistance in helping adjust as the new Clerk/Treasurer

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- George Stevens of CVRE is working to sell the parcel of land next to the VFW on E. Schaaf Rd.
- 4609 Van Epps Rd has been leased to a new tenant
- 1105 Valley Belt Road is looking for a long term tenant. The tenant there is month to month



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- Safeguard building has caught the eye of Hope Bridge who has a \$2 million payroll so we will see where that goes.
- Mayor Procuk met with an architect who is looking at part of the OMNI building for the National Weather Service. They would need some odd changes such as a private entrance, additional parking, parking for two boats and an elevator.
- The Visiting Nurse Association is looking at the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and part of the second floor of the OMNI building.
- GEIS property – the owner of the potential company in the GEIS property is in Amsterdam trying to make a decision on whether to build and consolidate in Brooklyn Heights or not consolidate and keep employees in both Independence and Valley View.

### MAYOR'S COURT

• Income for May	\$9,247.60
• State of Ohio	( 1,660.00)
• Indigent Driver & Alcohol	( 54.00)
• Reg. Enterprise Data Sharing System	( 175.00)
• BROOKLYN HEIGHTS	\$7,358.60

### MAYOR'S REPORT

- Cuyahoga Heights Centennial Celebration is August 10 & 11.
- Village-wide Garage Sale is August 11<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 1pm
- FOGG Customer / Tenant appreciation picnic will be on Wed. June 13<sup>th</sup>. RSVP by June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Mayor Procuk will leave for Washington D.C. on Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup>. Will meet with the Trump staff for a Whitehouse briefing and Nancy Pelosi will be the speaker. Going with the Greater Cleveland Partnership

### PARK & PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE- Councilman Foote Chair

- Discussed the basketball courts and how to improve the situation.
- Suggested a hoop be mounted on the fence inside the tennis courts
  - Can a hoop be mounted on the east fence?
  - Price a portable hoop
- Mr. Foote called a Parks & Playground committee meeting for 7:00 pm on June 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss increasing the Park Security Budget. Chief Algeri and Clerk/Treasurer Frank are requested to attend.

### ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

**ORDINANCE 33-2018-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KIMBLE COMPANIES TO PROVIDE RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING REMOVAL SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot

Second: Mr. Lasky

Yeas: Presot, Lasky, Foote, Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 33-2018 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 37-2018-** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FIRE STORE, SHUTTLE'S AND LUNA'S FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE UNIFORMS FOR THE BROOKLYN HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sponsor: Mr. Foote

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Second: Mr. Walsh  
Yeas: Foote, Walsh, Presot, Lasky  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 37-2018 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 38-2018-** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THAT FOGG PROPERTIES, OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IN THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT PROGRAM IS SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH ITS AGREEMENTS

Sponsor: Mr. Lasky  
Second: Mr. Foote  
Yeas: Lasky, Foote, Presot, Walsh  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 38-2018 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 39-2018-** JUNE PAY ORDINANCE

Sponsor: Mr. Walsh  
Second: Mr. Foote  
Yeas: Walsh, Foote, Lasky, Presot,  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 39-2018 is adopted 4-0

Mr. Foote said that he has received two additional interested candidates for the council vacancy, Dave Tomco and George Sedlak. He called a meeting on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to interview Mr. Tomco and Mr. Sedlak. Mr. Lasky asked if they will reinter view the previous candidates.

**MOTION: Mr. Foote moved to call a Wage & Salary Meeting to go into Executive session to discuss the council vacancy. Second by Mr. Lasky**

**Yeas: Foote, Lasky, Presot, Walsh**

**Nays: None**

**Motion carried 4-0**

Asst. Fire Chief Lasky told council that he attended the County Emergency Coordinators Summit last week. They are interested in information and resources available in case of a disaster.

Jim Lawrence said he was interested in the council vacancy and said he was interviewed by three of the four council members and would like another interview with all four in attendance. Mr. Foote said they would take that into consideration.

There being no further business to come before the council, it was moved Presot seconded by Lasky that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer



**PATRICK DiCHIRO**

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TO: CHIEF ALGIERI AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
FROM: PATRICK DICHIRO, SPECIAL PROSECUTOR  
DATE: 05-21-2018  
RE: INCIDENT #2170100036

Dear Chief and Council President:

I am sending this letter, and I apologize for the delay, to advise you that the matter concerning the incident between Mr. Lahiff and Mr. Walsh has been resolved.

As you are aware, Mr. Lahiff was ordered to attend Anger Management Counseling, which he did. He was also to provide a letter of apology to Mr. Walsh. The letter of apology was provided, but Mr. Walsh considered it insincere and unacceptable. As a result, there was no resolution at the time.

After submitting a second letter, I don't believe that Mr. Walsh's opinion changed, especially after the first one had already been written. I agree with Mr. Walsh in his interpretation of the original letter since it disputed my findings and genuinely showed no accountability on behalf of Mr. Lahiff for his actions.

Despite the foregoing, Mr. Walsh has decided to waive prosecution in this matter for the sake of Village of Brooklyn Heights and to forego any further embarrassment to the Village. I commend him for his conduct, and I will honor his request to forego any criminal prosecution. I have attached a copy of his letter.

In light of the foregoing, I am closing my file on this matter and instructing the Chief to do so too. As a special note, the Chief was great to work with considering the nature of this investigation. He should be recognized for his professionalism in handling this matter.

Best Wishes,

Patrick DiChiro  
Special Prosecutor  
Village of Brooklyn Heights

**COPY**



Matt Walsh  
Village of Brooklyn Heights

Re: Assault by Tom Lahiff

Dear Mr. Dichiro:

Thank you for forwarding the "letter of apology" by former councilman Lahiff.

To be clear, the "incident" referred to in his letter was an assault with me as the victim. The assault charge was determined by the independent special prosecutor after the investigation and referral from the Chief of Police.

As you know, I was reticent to pursue charges on a fellow council member. However, as special prosecutor, you stated there was "...sufficient evidence to convict Mr. Lahiff of assault, a violation of Ohio Revised Code 2903.13", and added:

"...this inappropriate conduct cannot and should not go unchecked. To do nothing would open the door for future inappropriate outburst or physically intimidating behavior. All people, especially an elected member of Council, must be compelled to express their views without physical altercation or the threat of violence."

Though I wholeheartedly agree with this statement, I am concerned with the affect his bad act has had, and will continue to have, on the reputation of the Village of Brooklyn Heights during a criminal prosecution, I am requesting you not pursue this prosecution and put this issue behind us so that we can concentrate on the Village business and making the Village a better place for our residents.

Matt Walsh

COPY



## **Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools**

### **Building Excellence and Success Together (BEST) Strategic Plan**

***GOAL: To fulfill the expectations of our Belief, Mission and Vision statements***

#### ***Beliefs***

We believe that each student can learn and achieve, has different needs that must be met, will graduate college and career ready, and will be prepared to be successful and contributing citizens.

We believe that parents and families must be supportive and involved by being actively engaged in the education of their children.

We believe that instructional and support staff must appreciate and understand the needs of each student while being masters of their fields of study.

We believe that district leadership must demonstrate the vision, guidance, and ability to overcome the challenges of successfully educating each student.

We believe that our schools are the heart and foundation of our communities: Brooklyn Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, and Valley View.

We believe that our tuition program students enhance and enrich our school communities.

We believe that we should increase our local business partnerships to mutually share insights, internships, and resources.

We believe that 21<sup>st</sup> century knowledge and use of technology is a necessary life skill in school, at home, and in the workplace.

#### ***Mission***

The mission of the Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools is to provide a safe, secure, and nurturing learning environment that graduates students who are college and career ready, are critical thinkers, are culturally aware, and are prepared to be successful citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

#### ***Vision***

Empowering students to reach new HEIGHTS



***STRATEGIES: To form Task Forces to develop our strategic planning initiatives under the following six pillars:***

***Pillar #1 – Academics (preK-12)***

- Employ and retain the highest quality personnel
- Provide aligned professional development opportunities and experiences for all employees and Board of Education members
- Continue to develop Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Math (STREAM) curriculum offerings
- Continue to develop Response to Intervention (RTI) and Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) approaches
- Continue to communicate changes in Ohio's student assessment and accountability systems to the district's four communities
- Continue to develop growth in student ACT and SAT participation and outcomes
- Continue to assess the value of all current curriculum offerings
- Investigate and make recommendations for additional curriculum offerings

***Pillar #2 – Safety, Security and Facilities***

- Build on increase in student awareness and involvement to improve safety and security
- Continue to coordinate safety/security review with village officials
- Prioritize capital improvement items that demonstrate the greatest gains from cost/benefit analysis (guaranteed payback or high maintenance risk)
- Continue to keep all four communities informed
- Review and make recommendations for facility improvements within the five year capital improvements plan (preK-12)
- Include all funding sources in the five year capital improvements plan

***Pillar #3 – Communication and Community Outreach***

**Communication**

- Continue to recognize and publicize student and school achievements
- Improve radio, television, print coverage with news releases, and photo opportunities to media outlets including the three village newsletters
- Enhance social media opportunities and maintain the district website
- Use timely editions of Tom Talks, Chieftain, school newsletters, and the district's billboard to highlight student and school achievements
- Investigate and make recommendations as to how to better inform the four communities of PTO and school events



### **Community Outreach**

- Continue to collaborate with the PTO and other district organizations to expand Family Night opportunities and the Four Communities Open House
- Continue to update the three village councils at council meetings at least twice a year
- Create and implement a process for the three village mayors to share economic developments with district leadership
- Develop multiple approaches for the treasurer to present the Five Year Forecast to community members
- Continue to strengthen relationships with parents/families, community leadership, and village residents

### ***Pillar #4 – Advancement of Student Opportunities (preK-12)***

- Increase training in technology skills in technology skills and online platforms to aid students in college and career preparation
- Increase student exposure to diverse populations through volunteer and other opportunities
- Determine opportunities to increase cultural awareness
- Investigate and make recommendations regarding creative approaches for students to earn Physical Education credits (summer school, extra-curricular and sports involvement, etc.)
- Assess college-bound students' readiness for college level requirements and address gaps
- Emphasize the relationship between involvement in student activities (sports, music, art, clubs, etc.) and broader life skills
- Conduct regular surveys of current students and graduates regarding student-centric topics (curriculum, safety, social concerns)
- Re-establish the Principal's Advisory Committee

### ***Pillar #5 – Enrollment***

- Continue to monitor and publicize changes in school and village demographic data
- Continue to develop collaborative efforts with the three villages to encourage village based student enrollment
- Continue to develop print, advertising, and social media approaches to emphasize the value of a preK-12 Cuyahoga Heights Schools education
- Continue to improve all aspects of the Four Communities Open House including the involvement of village leadership and recent graduates



### ***Pillar #6 – Finances***

- Conduct an on-going evaluation of the district's finances in order to provide:
  1. necessary capital improvements
  2. maintenance of facilities
  3. necessary financial resources
  4. grant writing opportunities
- Investigate and make recommendations regarding the establishment of a Cuyahoga Heights Foundation (business community, alumni, etc.)
- Provide transparency and on-going communications on the status of district finances to the four communities
- Continue to improve financial processes that produce accurate and timely financial reporting
- Implement automated systems to enhance recurring district operations