

# COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD \_\_\_\_\_ January 3, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on January 3, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Michael Procuk presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

Mayor Procuk gave the 'Oath of Office' to Councilman-elect Howard Selig and welcomed him to council. Mayor Procuk told council that Mr. Foote would not be here tonight due to a 'security briefing' at his job (Shaker Hts. High School) for the presidential visit on Wednesday. He will be sworn in at 3 pm on Wednesday afternoon.

Present at roll call:	Councilmen:	Black, Cichocki, Foote, Lahiff, Presot, Selig, Walsh
	Mayor:	Procuk
	Clerk/Treasurer:	Clymer
	Law Director:	Dowling
	Engineer:	Henry
	Police Chief:	Algeri
	Fire Chief:	Lasky
	Service Director:	Hatgas
	Bldg. Commissioner:	Socoloff
	Comm. Service Dir:	Guilfoyle
	Recreation Dir:	Presot

Mayor Procuk then issued the 'Oath of Office' to incumbent Councilman Bruce Cichocki.

Council will not elect a President Pro Tem until the February meeting due to Mr. Foote's absence.

Mayor Procuk announced the 2012 Council Committees and Chairpersons. They are as follows:

- Ad-Hoc Environment.....CICHOCKI, Presot, Foote
- Building.....BLACK, Selig, Presot
- Finance.....WALSH, Black, Foote
- Income Tax Board of Review.....BLACK, Cichocki, Presot
- Industrial Development.....FOOTE, Lahiff, Walsh
- Ordinance .....PRESOT, Foote, Lahiff
- Park, Playground & Comm. Services.....SELIG, Presot, Cichocki
- Safety.....CICHOCKI, Walsh, Selig
- Streets, Beautification & Utilities.....LAHIFF, Selig, Black
- Wage & Salary.....LAHIFF, Walsh, Foote

### DEPARTMENTS

#### TAX ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Procuk said he has not spoken with the family of Charles Smercina regarding any paperwork he may have had at his house as the Tax Administrator.

There are several board member terms that expired on December 31, 2011. He will be speaking with those members and making decisions on appointments.

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### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Procuk said they would go into executive session tonight to discuss the hiring of a former employee. He said Chief Algeri would like to set up a test to have a list of possible applicants and to discuss the disposal of property.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Lasky would like to set up a promotional test and prepare a list for possible hiring.

### **SERVICE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Hatgas is working on policies and procedures for shift changes.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Mrs. Guilfoyle would like to discuss the staffing in her department. Expressly her secretary since she is the only scheduled part-time employee left.

### **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Impact Awards are coming up in February at the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce and we would like a good showing since Geis is receiving an award on behalf of Brooklyn Hts.

### **LAW DIRECTOR**

Mr. Dowling is working on the Gnatovich and Anders properties and we will need to call Housing Council meeting and a Records Retention meeting.

### **COMMITTEES**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

They will be working on the budget for 2012.

#### **STREETS COMMITTEE**

They will continue their work on the possible changes to the sidewalk program and the complaints regarding the condition of the Dorset Drive area.

#### **ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

They will continue working on the changes to the Building Permit fees.

#### **WAGE AND SALARY COMMITTEE**

They will continue discussing possible restoration of benefits if any. They have already reduced the number of employee furlough days from sixteen to twelve for 2012.

#### **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The first thing they will make happen is the removal of the LPL phones in the park. This will save money.

#### **PARK COMMITTEE**

They will revisit the 'Art in the Park' program since so many residents want it back. Mayor Procuk suggested a survey be taken as to what programs the residents would like to have.

#### **INCOME TAX BOARD OF REVIEW**

Mayor Procuk will assign the Valley View/Safeguard negotiations to the Board of Review.

**MOTION: Mrs. Presot moved to approve the minutes from November 9<sup>th</sup>, November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 6, 2011. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion passed 6-0**

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Mayor Procuk gave a Proclamation to Michael D'Amico in honor of his 30 years of service as councilman for the Village of Brooklyn Heights. A resolution will be adopted in February when a "Michael D'Amico Day" will be held.

Mr. D'Amico told council I" to never forget who put you here and why – forget your own agenda".

### AUDIENCE

Michael Patterson from Congressman Kucinich's office was on hand to wish council a good next several years.

Residents Lyndie Schuckert and Brandy Tepley spoke about the recreation programs. They are concerned about the age groups, communication, and the opportunities that are or are not offered in Brooklyn Heights.

Mayor Procuk asked that when Mr. Selig call a committee meeting to be sure to include Mrs. Schuckert and Mrs. Tepley.

They said they have lots of ideas for the programs and the equipment.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Procuk will be sending a letter to both Andy Pech and Paul Zurowski accepting their resignations.

He read a letter from Linda Rocha thanking Kari, Tracy, Blair Melling and George Simon for helping her through the court procedure after her accident.

Council received a letter from Irene Miller of Josiah House asking that the fee be waived for the use of the Community Center for a Fashion Show fundraiser.

**MOTION: Mr. Cichocki moved to waive the fee for Josiah House to use the Community Center for a Fashion Show fundraiser on March 10, 2012. Second by Mr. Lahiff Motion passed 6-0**

### CLERK-TREASURER

Mr. Clymer reported that he received the Charter Amendment certificates from the County Board of Elections. These are the amendments that were passed in the November 2011 election.

### SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Hatgas asked that the Ordinance process begin regarding the Narrow banding Radios. This is mandated by the FCC to begin in 2013. The department needs a total of nine radios so they must purchase seven radios and the Fire Department has given them two radios. The cost of the seven radios including the tower is \$12,799.02. This is the cost through state bidding.

Mr. Lahiff will call a Streets committee meeting to discuss the radios, the garbage contract and the condition of the streets.

Mr. Hatgas told council that Terrace Construction would use the park to access the sanitary pipe that runs between Brooklyn Heights and Seven Hills. The pipe needs repair work and the easiest access is from our park.

Mayor Procuk commended the Service Department on the condition of the roads during our first snowstorm and thanked them for their efforts.

*At this time, Mr. Clymer reminded Mayor Procuk that they needed to excuse Mr. Foote's absence.*

**MOTION: Mrs. Presot moved to excuse Mr. Foote. Second by Mr. Selig Motion passed 6-0**

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### POLICE CHIEF

Chief Algeri asked for a motion to pay Bedford Hts. for housing two of our prisoners. The cost is \$1,281.27. **MOTION: Mr. Cichocki moves to pay Bedford Heights \$1,281.27, the cost of housing our prisoners in December. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion passed 6-0**

Chief Algeri would like a motion to pay I O Solutions up to \$2,500 for testing to establish an eligibility list for police candidates. **MOTION: Mr. Cichocki moves to pay I O Solutions for testing to establish an eligibility list for police candidates not to exceed \$2,500. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion passed 6-0**

Chief Algeri announced that he became a grandfather on Friday. (Congratulations)

### FIRE CHIEF

Chief Lasky asked that a motion to pay for the replacement turnout gear that was destroyed during a vehicle fire on I-480. The insurance company sent us the money so there will be no cost to the village. **MOTION: Mr. Lahiff moves to pay for the destroyed turnout gear cost not to exceed \$1,500. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion passed 6-0**

Chief Lasky gave council pictures of the Bravada and told them that it can no longer be in service. He will be asking for a replacement vehicle for the department.

Mr. Cichocki called a Safety Committee meeting for January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to discuss promotional testing and hiring procedures.

Mr. Walsh called a Finance Committee meeting for the same evening at 7:30 pm to discuss the budget.

### RECREATION DIRECTOR

Mr. Presot announced that soccer sign-ups are taking place and Baseball and Softball sign-ups are also in the Breeze and the deadline is about two and a half months away.

Mayor Procuik asked about the Smurf Soccer and Mr. Presot told him that the age for Smurf soccer is 5 & 6 year olds. He has had parents ask if a 3 or 4 year old could play and has always told them it is up to them. If they feel it is too much for the child they can always pull him/her out.

Mayor Procuik suggested a Pre-Smurf team of 3-4 year olds. He asked that a committee be called to discuss a more expanded soccer program.

Mrs. Tepley and Mrs. Schuckert feel that the information in the Breeze is too limited and generic. They would like to see better advertisement of the programs. Mrs. Tepley offered to write the articles.

Mr. Walsh asked if it is difficult to get parents / coaches to help?

Mr. Presot said it is very difficult but at the end of the day, he manages to find someone to do it. He stated that less than a year ago he had a girl's U-8 team and no one wanted to coach. Councilman Lahiff stepped up and coached the team because no parents would do it. He said he has one woman who has recruited her husband and college age son to help her coach the thirty or so little kids.

Mr. Selig asked if meetings have to be on Tuesdays and Mayor Procuik told him he could call a meeting for any evening. They decided to have a Parks & Playground meeting on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to discuss the recreation program and possible expansion of the programs.

### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Perry had no report but did tell council that the son of Aldo Campellone, who owns ABC Piping here in Brooklyn Hts, is an international soccer star for Italy.

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### **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Mrs. Guilfoyle reported that there are currently 85 signed up for the snow removal program.

She received a thank you from the Red Cross for the Blood drive held on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. We collected only ten pints of blood but they were very appreciative of that.

Mrs. Guilfoyle thanked anyone who in any way participated in the Hope Tree, food pantry and or Christmas dinners. She said the program made several families in the village happy to have a nice holiday season this year because of the generosity of our residents and businesses.

The AARP tax sessions for seniors and low-income families will be held in February and March.

### **ENGINEER**

Mr. Henry would like a committee meeting set up to discuss the infrastructure. Mr. Lahiff called the meeting for February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### **LAW DIRECTOR**

Mr. Dowling would like to go into executive session tonight to discuss the Anders issue and also a personnel issue in the Police department.

### **CLERK/TREASURER**

Mr. Clymer stated that we began 2011 with \$1.63 million in the general fund and ended the year with \$1.71 million in the general fund.

The state auditor is no longer going to audit us. We are viewed by the state as a low risk client, so we have to bid out for an independent accountant. The cost of an independent account would be about \$8,400 every two years compared to the \$10,000 we were charged by the state.

Mr. Clymer told council that he has accepted a part-time interim Fiscal Officer position with Newburg Heights for the first few months of the year. He will work there ten to fifteen hours a week and it will in no way interfere with the job he does here. Their last clerk/treasurer was Trevor Elkins, who has been elected Mayor and he is making the office an appointed position. His appointment cannot start until April or May.

Mrs. Presot told council that the Tree City application was approved.

### **ORDINANCE 01-2012 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SHELDON SOCOLOFF FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND AS CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL.**

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot Second: Mr. Cichocki

Yeas: Presot, Cichocki, Black, Walsh, Selig, Lahiff

Nays: none

Passed: 6-0

### **ORDINANCE 02-2012 – JANUARY PAY ORDINANCE**

Sponsor: Mr. Lahiff Second: Mr. Walsh

Yeas: Lahiff, Walsh, Presot, Black, Selig, Cichocki

Nays: none

Passed: 6-0

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MOTION: Mr. Black moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the Anders property issue and the police department personnel issue. Second: Mr. Walsh

Yeas: Black, Walsh, Cichocki, Selig, Lahiff, Presot

Nays: none

Passed: 6-0

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

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer