

## VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

### MINUTES OF A MEETING

#### STREETS COMMITTEE

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**Streets Committee** meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on **February 16, 2021 at 5:30 pm** with Councilman Mark Lasky presiding.

Present at roll call:

Councilmen:	Blados, Lahiff, Lasky, Presot & Walsh
Mayor:	Procuk
Clerk/Treasurer:	Frank
Police Chief:	Meade
Service Director:	Hatgas
GUESTS:	Chris Triscari, Rob Algeri

Mr. Lasky said there was an ordinance at the Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for a 2020 4x2 F350 that was defeated 4 to 1 and they are here tonight because Mayor Procuk requested they hold a Streets Committee meeting.

- Mayor Procuk stated that this meeting was called to discuss the needs of the Service Department. It seems there is a difference of opinion as to what is needed to run the department. This meeting is to look at the list of the department needs which includes a dump truck that was not replaced a year ago. He called this meeting to see if there is another truck out there that we should be seeking council's affirmative vote on.
- Mr. Lasky stated that he would like to correct the Mayor's statement that no member of council feels they can run the department more efficiently or better. Mayor Procuk restated that there were different opinions that we should be looking at this or that type of vehicle so that is the purpose of this meeting to further discuss that.
- Service Department employee Rob Algeri spoke to council.
  - Mr. Algeri was under the impression that the truck they looked at was a done deal for the use of the department especially for senior grass.
  - A pickup truck with a dump bed might do for some landscape situations but the truck that council voted down last week would have been the perfect vehicle. He would ask council to pass on a pickup with a dump bed in it and wait for a truck that would work for the department.
  - The 1999 F450 dump truck that they use (100,000+ miles) is used for senior grass because it suits the program the best but has seen better days.
  - As the grass is cut it is bagged in the mower bag and then must be dumped into the bed of the truck. Using a pickup with a dump bed inserted in it is less efficient in that the bed doesn't hold as much and sits higher up to try to throw the bag over for emptying. A lower truck is also a safety factor due to its height.
  - The old white mini dump that the department had was perfect for what they need and that is what they want to replace. A dump truck holds more volume than a pickup with a dump bed inserted.
  - Mr. Lasky wants a truck that can be used all year not just for grass. Mr. Algeri stated that the white mini dump we had was used for plowing and that was identical to the F350. He stated that Frank Lambert used it for cul-de-sacs and parking lots all the time.
  - Mr. Lasky asked what the height difference he is talking about. Mr. Algeri said that some of the mini dumps are 5 ½ feet tall and the pickup with the insert is much higher.
  - Mrs. Presot said she went to Valley Ford to look at the original truck and there is definitely a substantial size difference in the beds. She explained the time it takes to dump grass and that Mr. Hatgas did his due diligence in finding a truck that would suit the department and that last year, when Mr. Hatgas asked for a pickup truck council thought it best to just replace the bed of a pickup truck. She feels that council is micromanaging the department, Mr. Lasky took offense to her micromanaging statement. Mrs. Presot asked Mr. Lasky if he wants to see a vehicle with a plow when last year he was against a vehicle with a plow.

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- Mr. Algeri asked Mr. Hatgas if he spoke with council about the truck they wanted and he said he did. Mr. Walsh said maybe they should take a time out and look at a used truck in a few weeks. Mr. Algeri invited Mr. Walsh and Mr. Lahiff to the garage to look at the trucks they have. Mr. Walsh said he doesn't go into the police department to look at their cars. Mr. Hatgas makes his list and lets council make their decision.
- Mr. Walsh agrees that the Service Department needs a vehicle but said they should hold off for a week or two and come back and revisit it.
- Mr. Algeri said he is on this meeting because he feels there was either some misinformation or not enough information but he wants council to know what works for the guys.
- Mr. Lasky said Mr. Hatgas has been present at the committee meetings and has answered their questions.
- Mr. Walsh reiterated that they should wait a couple of weeks and revisit it if something becomes available.
- Mr. Hatgas told council that these trucks are not readily available due to the virus. It could be the end of 2021 or early 2022 before you could see a dump truck.
- Mr. Lasky said that he agrees with Mr. Walsh to revisit this after they pass the budget and they know what money they have to spend.
- Mr. Blados and Mr. Lahiff both agree to wait until after the budget is set. Mr. Lahiff said they could rely on the members of council who have experience with landscape and dump trucks.
- Mayor Procuk said that council has had the wish list of the Service Department which is the same as it was twelve months ago and has put \$270,000 in the Capital Fund and the village bills are being paid even though the budget has not been finalized because you still have to run the village. The budget is nothing more than a guideline. Council voted down the dump truck and there are no other dump trucks available. There is no need to call another meeting to discuss this.
- Mr. Lasky said we have a capital budget. We know we need road repairs, a fire truck, an ambulance, the Police Chief wants three police cars and the Service Department want three trucks. Council has not said "hey, whatever you want we will purchase it." We are going to look at the budget and see how much we want to spend and how much we should save to do bigger jobs.

Councilman Lasky asked if there was any other business to discuss at the Streets Committee meeting. If there is no further business the meeting is adjourned

  
Councilman Mark Lasky, Committee Chairman