

COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD _____ January 6, 2015 _____ 20 _____

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on **January 6, 2015** at **7:30 P.M.** with Mayor Michael Procuk presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Present at roll call: | Councilmen: | Black, Foote, N. Hatgas, Selig, Walsh |
| | Mayor: | Procuk |
| | Clerk/Treasurer: | Clymer |
| | Law Director: | Dowling |
| | Police Chief: | Algeri |
| | Service Director: | Hatgas |
| | Bldg. Commissioner: | Socoloff |
| | Comm. Service Dir: | Guilfoyle |
| | Recreation Dir: | Presot |
| | Audience: | Tom Lahiff, Jen Presot, Gary Foote, Tim Flynn |

MOTION: Council President Pro Tem John Black nominated Les Foote as 2015 Council President Pro Tem. Second by Mrs. Hatgas Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Procuk said he passed out the list of committee chairs and since everyone wanted to continue as head of their committees, he made no changes. Committee Chairs are the same as in 2014.

Mayor Procuk informed council that he has not made any changes to his appointed department heads, contract employees or at-will employees and asked for a confirmation vote.

MOTION: Mr. Foote moved to confirm the mayoral standing appointments of department heads, contract employees and at-will employees. Second by Mr. Black Motion passed 5-0

There was a motion by Mr. Walsh to amend the December 2, 2014 minutes to show that Chief Algeri was not present at the meeting. Second by Mr. Selig Motion to amend approved 5-0

MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to approve the December 2, 2014 regular meeting minutes as amended. Second by Mr. Selig Motion passed 5-0

The election of the members to the Volunteer Fire Fighters Dependents Fund board took place. The appointees are: Lt. Bryon Borowy, FF Tom Kraus, Jennifer Presot, Thea Guilfoyle and Tim Clymer.

MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to accept the appointments to the Volunteer Fire Fighters Dependents Fund Board. Second by Mrs. Hatgas Motion passed 5-0

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Procuk read a letter from Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough regarding the RTA Governing Board elections. *ATTACHED*

A thank you letter was read from Cuyahoga Heights Fire Chief Neal Cash. He thanked our fire department for responding to a mutual aid fire call on December 15, 2014 on Interstate 77. *ATTACHED*
Responding from Brooklyn Heights was Chief Lasky, Asst. Chief Stefanko, Lt. Stanislaw and FF Prebish.

AUDIENCE

None

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FIRE CHIEF

Chief Lasky was not in attendance but asked Mayor Procuik to report that the old Building Department vehicle sold on eBay for \$1,375.

He will attend the Regional Dispatch meeting with Chief Algeri on Thursday, January 8th.

Mr. Clymer asked for a motion to pay the annual hydrant fee to the City of Cleveland.

MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay the City of Cleveland, Division of Water \$3,872.96 for the annual hydrant maintenance fee. Second by Mr. Black Motion passed 5-0

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Algeri summarized a few letters thanking his department for assisting their departments.

- Newburgh Hts. on Dec. 12th – we assisted in closing down a portion of I-77 when their officer was involved in a crash on the highway.
- Cuyahoga Hts. on Dec. 15th – assisting their department during the fire / crash on I-77
- Valley View on January 3rd – assisted at the Cinemark fight along with several other departments.

Chief Algeri reported that the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission mandated four hours of training. All of our officers completed the training and the village will be reimbursed \$1,040 for the cost of the training.

Chief Algeri is pleased to announce that the School Safety Committee is being reestablished and the camera systems will be reconnected to dispatch. There will be a daily walk through of the school buildings by the three police departments on a rotating basis.

Mr. Walsh asked how long the cameras have been disconnected and Chief Algeri responded several years. He said the cameras bogged down the dispatch computer system and a T-1 line had to be run. Superintendent Bergant and the new Superintendent Tom Evans are both on board to get the system up and running again.

Chief Algeri reminded council that Sgt. Baudo is retiring and his last day on the books is January 10, 2015. He asked that he be allowed to purchase his service revolver as we have done in the past.

MOTION: Mr. Black moved to allow Sgt. Baudo to purchase his service revolver for \$1.00 upon his retirement. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion passed 5-0

Chief Algeri would like to promote Larry Zakrajsek to the rank of Sergeant (based on the promotional test of 2013) at the February council meeting.

Chief Algeri will attend the Cuyahoga County Fire Chiefs Association meeting with Chief Lasky on January 8, 2015. The discussion will be about the new Emergency Operations Center in Broadview Hts. and the plan for regional dispatching.

Chief Algeri then requested motions:

- **MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Bedford Hts. Jail \$1,462.50 for housing two prisoners for a total of twenty-two (22) days. Second by Mr. Black Motion passed 5-0**
- **MOTION: Mr. Black moved to pay Sundance Systems \$3,360 to maintain the mobile computer systems in the police vehicles for 2015. Second by Mr. Selig Motion passed 5-0**

Mayor Procuik asked what our strength is in the department and Chief Algeri responded eleven full-time plus himself. Our ordinance says seventeen plus the chief. They will schedule interviews as soon as possible. We have five part-time officers also.

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RECREATION DIRECTOR

Mr. Presot reported that the sign-ups for Soccer and Baseball are in the Breeze and at www.brooklynhts.org.

He received his first shipment of free baseball helmets from the Ohio Ophthalmological Society. This is a three-year agreement and we received 70 helmets at no charge. A survey will need to be completed for this agreement. These helmets will be a part of the equipment that is given to each coach.

Mr. Presot asked what to do with the old helmets that do not have the face shield and he was told to destroy them to avoid any liability to the village.

SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Hatgas reported that we received the Recycling Grant check for 2014 in the amount of \$4,715. The grant included the additional cost of the recycling rolling totes for 2014 and the cost of the two community Shred-It days.

Mr. Hatgas also reported that we have received all reimbursements from the City of Cleveland/Division of Water for the repairs done in 2014.

He has presented council with the 2015 Areas of Concern, and has requested quotes for new boilers for the Community Center and efficiency lighting for the Service Garage.

Mr. Foote called a Streets meeting for January 12th at 6 pm and Mayor Prochuk said there will be a special Council Meeting immediately following at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Hatgas requested a motion for a new salt spreader kit for the F-650.

MOTION: Mr. Black moved to pay \$1,504.70 to Best Equipment for a CompuSpread Salt Spreader Kit for the F-650. Second by Mr. Foote Motion passed 5-0

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Mrs. Guilfoyle reported that the two Art-in-the-Park sessions over the holiday break went well. It was conducted by volunteers: Mindy Armbrust and her team. There were a total of twenty-six children participating over the two days. She would like to do this again in April.

The emergency Blood Drive yielded twenty-one (21) pints of blood and the Red Cross was grateful.

About twenty-five (25) people attended the Remembrance Celebration.

AARP will prepare tax returns on one day in February and one in March. All returns are e-filed. This is open to both residents and non-residents. Call for an appointment.

Mrs. Guilfoyle asked about continuing in the Heritage Home Program at a cost of \$400. Mr. Walsh and Mr. Foote think it is a good idea but we need to really explain the program. Last year we had four inquiries, three site visits and one loan application (which were denied).

We have over 300 homes in the village that would qualify for the assistance and it is good for rental properties also. The home does not have to be owner-occupied.

MOTION: Mr. Walsh moves to pay \$400 to the Heritage Home Program for 2015. Second by Mr. Foote. Motion passed 5-0

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BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. Socoloff reported that he issued 3 Certificates of Occupancy and there is resurgence in Point of Sale Inspections. He said that Graf-Tech, Wise Snacks and Trionetics are in the process of remodeling buildings for occupancy.

Mayor Procuk said that Graf-Tech is planning on holding tours next week of their new building followed by a reception at Embassy Suites.

Mayor Procuk asked Mr. Socoloff to send letters to the residents who are allowing parking on their front lawns informing them of the zoning infraction.

LAW DIRECTOR

No Report

CLERK/TREASURER

Mr. Clymer reported that the 2014 Financials were reconciled as of late this afternoon. The report shows the General Fund down \$468,870.75 with an ending balance for 2014 of \$1,303,724.

RITA collections were also down 7.03% (\$324,192) and the General Fund spending was at 94.1% of the budget.

MOTION: Mr. Black moved to pay Warwick \$4,856.53 renewal fee for phone warranty and maintenance. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion passed 5-0

MOTION: Mr. Black moved to waive the Community Center Rental Fee for the Municipal Finance Officers Association lunch on June 10, 2015. Second by Mr. Walsh Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Black asked how much money we shift from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund and Mr. Clymer said \$40,000 a quarter (\$160,000). Mr. Black then said that the decline in the General Fund was partly due to shifting money to the Capital Improvement Fund.

MAYOR'S COURT

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Income | \$6,030 |
| State of Ohio | (1,088) |
| Indigent Driver & Alcohol Fund | (39) |
| Regional Enterprise Data Sharing | (130) |

Brooklyn Heights \$4,773

MAYOR

Mayor Procuk expounded on Mr. Clymer's report and said that the Community Reinvestment ended on Dec. 31st and we will write our Revenue Sharing check to the schools for 2014. The schools will collect from the property taxes from now on. He also said that although we are down in RITA collections, we did not lose any major employers this year and that the smaller companies are working with fewer employees. Mayor Procuk said that the payment to Safeguard may be about \$15,000 and we will be done.

He reiterated that Brooklyn Heights is tied with Cuyahoga Heights with the lowest taxes in the county.

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Mayor Procuk asked for motions to pay some invoices.

- **MOTION: Mr. Black moved to pay the 2015 dues to the Cuyahoga County Mayors and City Managers Association in the amount of \$714.26. Second by Mr. Foote Motion passed 5-0**
- **MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Cox Communications a one-time fee of \$99 and a monthly charge of \$54.99 for internet service for the Service Department and Community Services Department. Second by Mrs. Hatgas Motion passed 5-0**

Mike Henry will speak to council at the committee meeting regarding the Partnership with Cuyahoga County and the assistance to communities by paying for materials for various roadwork throughout the village. We would have the opportunity to receive \$131,000 for the materials but we would have to pay the labor. Mr. Henry also applied for funding in 2016 but it was denied.

Mayor Procuk will speak at the GrafTech open house at the Embassy Suites and welcome them to the village.

The First Suburbs Consortium will hold their annual luncheon on January 30th.

The VFW will hold a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on January 10th.

The West Creek Conservancy will host the Blues for Green Fundraising Gala on February 28th at St. Michael's Woodside.

Mayor Procuk may ask council to go into Executive Session to discuss a previous litigation and a personnel issue.

Mayor Procuk asked Mr. Hatgas to tell council about Scott Lader. Mr. Hatgas said that on Saturday, Dec. 27th Scott went to the Fire Station to be checked because of some problems he was having. They put the 12-leads on him and rushed him to UH Parma where the Cardiac team was waiting for him. They put in two stents and attempted a third. He is at home gaining strength to undergo open heart surgery sometime in the next few weeks.

The Service Department is now working one man short.

Mrs. Hatgas complimented the department on how clean our streets are as she drives a distance to work and other communities do not do as good a job.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Black reported that Mr. Socoloff and Mr. Henry will review the Zoning Ordinances and try to streamline them so not everything would have to go to the Architectural Board of Review unless deemed necessary.

Mr. Lahiff said that the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual Awards luncheon on January 21st. There are two categories: Business of the Year and Customer Service. We have nominated Smith and Condeni for the Customer Service Award.

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ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE 01-2015: January Pay Ordinance

Sponsor: Mrs. Hatgas

Second: Mr. Black

Yeas: Hatgas, Black, Foote, Selig, Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 01-2015 is adopted 5-0

RESOLUTION 01-2015 – AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS TO EXEMPT CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND FROM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SANITARY SEWERS, STORM SEWERS, AND WATER MAINS

Sponsor: Mr. Foote

Second: Mrs. Hatgas

Discussion: Mr. Gary Foote asked for an explanation. Mr. Clymer said this pertains to the parcels of land that the West Creek Conservancy owns. They are a NON-PROFIT organization but are required to pay the taxes on the maintenance of the sewers and water mains unless exempted by virtue of an ordinance.

Yeas: Foote, Hatgas, Selig, Walsh, Black

Nays: None

Resolution 01-2015 is adopted 5-0

Mayor Procuk told council that the leftover Christmas bags that Santa handed out went to St. Augustine and to the Art-in-the-Park sessions.

Mayor Procuk's son Mike and his wife Jen had twin girls on December 17th making him a grandpa of seven.

MOTION: Mr. Selig moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and a personnel issue. Second by Mr. Foote Motion passed

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

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer



Village of Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department

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December 19, 2014

Chief Michael Lasky
Brooklyn Heights Fire Department
345 Tuxedo Avenue
Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131

*Lasky
Stefanko
Stomilow
Pabush*

Dear Chief Lasky,

On December 15th, your department responded to a mutual aid request regarding an overturned commercial truck/trailer on I-77 North that involved two vehicles on fire and fully involved. This incident also put two major transportation corridors in harm's way. Thanks in large part to your department and your command assist, we were able minimize the damage to the Interstate and the CSX Rail bridge and accomplish this with the safety of all responders as the first priority.

I want to thank you for the quick response and professionalism that all of your firefighters showed. It is a comfort knowing that we have such highly trained and qualified fire departments in our Cuyahoga Valley response area to assist us when needed. Please do not hesitate to call us if you ever need our support in the future.

Thank you,

Neal Cash

Fire Chief Neal Cash

Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department