

# COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD July 07, 2020 20

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on July 07, 2020 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Michael Procuk presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

Present at roll call:	Councilmen:	Blados, Lahiff, Lasky, Presot & Walsh
	Mayor:	Procuk
	Clerk/Treasurer:	Frank
	Law Director:	Dowling
	Engineer:	Henry
	Police Chief:	Meade
	Fire Chief:	Stefanko
	Asst. Chief	Lasky
	Service Director:	Hatgas
	Bldg. Commissioner:	
	Asst. Bldg. Comm.	Sonenstein
	Comm. Service Dir:	Guilfoyle
	Recreation Dir:	Krzynowek
	Soccer Dir:	Shadd
	GUESTS:	Jared Graver (Galway Circle)
		Chelsea Kovar

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Mayor Procuk read email correspondence from Chelsea Kovar regarding her concerns to the village park and the baseball spectators not complying with social distancing. *Attached*
- Mayor Procuk responded to Chelsea Kovar (who was also on the zoom council meeting as a guest) regarding her concerns.
- There are signs throughout the park regarding social distancing but he cannot and will not ask our police / park specials to get into confrontations with those who believe the pandemic is a hoax.
- Ms. Kovar questioned the validity of the council email addresses listed on the village website and Mr. Lahiff said he has not been able to access any emails addressed to him. Mrs. Guilfoyle told him that she would send him the access directions in the morning as she had done in the past.

### RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Mr. Krzynowek said that in answer to some of Ms. Kovar's concerns, he is able to control what the coaches and teams do but not what the spectators do. He said that they are doing their best to follow the league rules on social distancing.
- **MOTION: Mr. Lahiff moved to pay Steve's Sports Inc. \$3,434 for uniforms for the summer recreation league. Second by Mr. Blados Motion carried 5-0**

### AUDIENCE

- Ms. Kovar asked when the ice rink will be removed and if there will be any meetings called for the Park Ad Hoc committee. Mr. Henry said that they are waiting for the release of the catch basins and then the skating rink will be removed all at once.
- Mr. Blados said he was not planning any committee meeting during the present situation because all grant money is on hold until next year.
- He called a Park Ad Hoc meeting for 7pm on July 21, 2020 to discuss the future park projects.
- Jared Graver – 4376 Galway Circle – asked what the village stand on wearing masks is. He is against masks for himself and his family and they should not be forced to wear them.

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Mayor Procuk said that he has no answer yet but as of 6 pm tomorrow evening (7/8/2020) masks will be mandated in public areas by the State of Ohio and we will follow the state mandates for as long as we are under the state of emergency. He will have a conference call tomorrow morning to get clarification as to what the county and municipalities are being asked to do.

### POLICE CHIEF

- Chief Meade said there was a recall on the Ford vehicles for the catalytic converters and we will receive a refund of \$2,400 for the converters we have replaced. They are trying to get another \$400 for the oxygen sensors also.
- The State FOP donated two tablets to the department and we will purchase two protective cases for them.
- The new cruisers are scheduled to be ready on July 20<sup>th</sup> and will be on the road by the end of July.
- Chief Meade is considering switching to online testing for hiring of police officers. The departments who are doing this have seen their responses increase significantly. Applicants go the NTN Police Testing on the web to apply to take the test. Applicants can pay an extra fee to have their application go to any department they wish. Chief Meade will get with Mr. Dowling to tweak our applications. Our cost will be about \$8,000 less than in-person testing.
- There is an ordinance up for consideration tonight regarding disposing of items from our evidence room. We have filled all four of our garages with stolen property to dispose of. In most cases the insurance companies have fulfilled the claims so the property has been turned over to us to dispose of and the company will cut us a check.

*NOTE: This was a two year credit card investigation by Det. Tulcewicz and the FBI. A warrant was issued for a home in Highland Heights and the house was filled with stolen property and / or merchandised purchased with stolen credit cards for the purpose of resale. The FBI filled 5 box trucks with the merchandise and it was transported to our garage. The man is working on a plea bargain in Federal Court and the terms are that he has to sign everything over to us. There are a few items that the rightful owners want back but the big stores like Lowe's and Home Depot have been paid by their insurance companies and told us to keep it.*  
*Mayor Procuk congratulated our department on their due diligence.*

### FIRE CHIEF

- **MOTION: Mr. Blados moved to pay Bob Gillingham Ford \$4,763.18 for emergency repairs to RS 41. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 5-0**  
*Note: Replace engine oil cooler*
- We received a State of Ohio EMS non matching grant in the amount of \$2,841.18
- The annual Hydrant testing will be July 11, 2020 thru July 25, 2020. The residents and business will be notified via the marquee, the website and the street signs.

### SERVICE DIRECTOR

- **MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Skyline Tree Service \$1,525 to remove a tree lawn tree at 5150 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 5-0**
- Mr. Blados asked how that tree was picked to be removed when there are so many others in worse condition. Mr. Hatgas said that the resident called and said it was becoming a hazard with falling limbs, etc. He stated that they do a quarterly drive around to check the trees.
- Recycling for 2019 was down 3% at 36% from 2018 which was at 39%. Everyone is going backwards with recycling because there is no demand for recycled products.
- The resident at 369 Tuxedo called to complain that there is flooding in his garage due to the run off from the village property. Mr. Henry and Mr. Hatgas met and feel the problem would be solved if there was a rain garden put on the village property at the Municipal Center. They would seek reimbursement from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. Mr. Blados asked if there is an estimated cost to this project and Mr. Henry said not at this time. He did say that this would also help with the drainage on the south side of the parking lot and enhance it by putting in a new concrete curb where the asphalt is missing.
- Two bids came in for the repair of the vandalized steps at the park. The lower bid was from Dean Diversified LLC. at a cost of \$3,200. We would submit it to our insurance company and pay the \$1,000 deductible and be reimbursed the balance. **MOTION: Mr. Blados moved to award Dean Diversified LLC the repair of the steps at a cost of \$3,200. Second by Mr. Lasky Motion carried 5-0**
- 2005 pick-up truck: the cost to replace the bed (J & L Body) is \$7,789 and the cost to replace the lift gate (AA Hydraulics) is \$3,176 for a total of \$10,965.



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Pricing from Gillingham Ford Fleet Division for a new F-350 is \$42,841. Using the plow we have that is two years old would bring the price down about \$5,000. Financing for 4 years would be at 5.49%. Mr. Blados asked if Mr. Hatgas would get pricing for a new dump truck also because he feels that would be more useful than another pickup truck.

Mr. Hatgas said that a new F-550 would basically be the same as the one we have now but that would leave us with only two trucks with the lift gate. For safety reasons we need the lift gate.

- Mr. Lasky called a Streets Committee meeting for 6:30 pm on July 21<sup>st</sup> to consider either repairs or replacement of the 2005 truck and the tracking program.
- Mr. Hatgas will have a conference call with Verizon tomorrow to discuss a GPS program for the trucks that would also track maintenance, wear & tear and electronic reporting. This will also be discussed at the Streets meeting.

### ENGINEER

- Bids were opened on June 25<sup>th</sup> for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street water department project. The lowest bid was David Digger Excavating Inc. and the contract will be awarded to them at the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at a cost of \$239,000. The City of Cleveland Water Department will cut a check for their portion and it will be deposited into the Capital Fund.
- Mr. Henry and Mayor Prochuk had a conference call with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission regarding our Master Plan. There will be a ZOOM meeting with the businesses and the school board to make sure the I's are all dotted.

### SOCCER

- There will be a meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the fall season.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Remote Art in the Park has 24 kids signed up
- Senior Lawn Cutting has 48 and calls are coming in about the excellent job the Service Department is doing.
- The seventeen (17) drive-by celebrations were well received and appreciated.

### BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- 925 Keynote Circle – National Weather will begin moving in August 1<sup>st</sup>
- 1250 Keynote Circle – temporary occupancy permit for a law firm moving in
- 994 Valley Belt – American Nut has a temporary occupancy permit to begin moving in
- 650 W. Resource Dr – AmeriGas is moving along
- 613 Tuxedo renovation is complete and the house is sold.

### CLERK/TREASURER

- June transfers: Capital Budget \$18,608  
Employee Retirees Fund \$10,000  
Incentive Fund \$45,000  
New fund COVID 19 Fund \$24,280 mandated by the State of Ohio
- MOTION: Mr. Lahiff moved that we accept the new 205 Fund (COVID 19) mandated by the State of Ohio. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 5-0
- MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to submit the 2020 Alternative Tax Budget to the county. Second by Mr. Blados Motion carried 5-0
- On Friday the state auditor's representative will pick up a box and jump drive of requested items for our audit.
- The Chase bank contract for our General Fund will expire in August. The bank is sending the paperwork for the renewal.
- The July 1<sup>st</sup> RITA drop was \$380,000, up \$56,000 from 2019.
- With six months down we are operating at 4.75% under budget

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### MAYOR'S COURT

• Income for June	\$ 2,222.74
• State of Ohio	( 210.00)
• Indigent Driver & Alcohol	( 6.00)
• Reg. Enterprise Data Sharing System	( 20.00)
• BROOKLYN HEIGHTS	\$ 1,986.74

### MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor's Court will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup>. There are approximately 100 pending cases to be heard. All departments will be working together to maintain a safe environment for all attending. We will be sanitizing the building before and after court.
- There will be no permits issued for either the Community Center or the pavilions at this time.
- We will follow the Governor's lead with masks.

### ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

#### ORDINANCE 40-2020- JULY PAY ORDINANCE

Sponsor: Mr. Lahiff

Second: Mr. Walsh

Yeas: Lahiff, Walsh, Blados, Presot, Lasky

Nays: None

Ordinance 40-2020 is adopted 5-0

#### ORDINANCE 41-2020- AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF ELEVATORS

Sponsor: Mr. Walsh

Second: Mr. Blados

Yeas: Walsh, Blados, Lahiff, Presot, Lasky

Nays: None

Ordinance 42-2020 is adopted 5-0

#### ORDINANCE 42-2020- AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, AND IMPROVING CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, OHIO IN COOPERATION WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO ADVANCED ENERGY DISTRICT.

Sponsor: Mr. Walsh

Second: Mrs. Presot

*Discussion: Mr. Frank explained the ordinance as amending it to get it initiated within one year instead of over a period of years.*

Yeas: Walsh, Presot, Lahiff, Blados, Lasky

Nays: None

Ordinance 42-2020 is adopted 5-0

#### ORDINANCE 43-2020- AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PROPERTYROOM.COM INC. TO DISPOSE OF USED VILLAGE ASSETS

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot

Second: Mr. Lasky

Yeas: Presot, Lasky, Lahiff, Blados, Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 43-2020 is adopted 5-0

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**ORDINANCE 44-2020-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A JOB CREATION INCENTIVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN NUTS, LLC

Sponsor: Mr. Blados

Second: Mrs. Presot

Yeas: Blados, Presot, Lahiff, Lasky, Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 44-2020 is adopted 5-0

**MOTION:** Mrs. Presot moved to go into executive session to discuss litigation. Second by Mr. Blados  
Motion carried 5-0

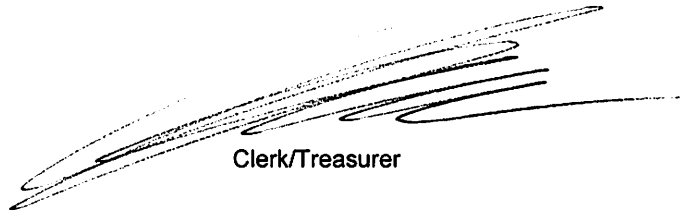
There being no further business to come before the council, it was moved by Mrs. Presot and seconded by Mr. Walsh that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer

## Aaron Frank

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**From:** Mike Procuk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 4:03 PM  
**To:** Aaron Frank  
**Subject:** FW: Park Observations  
**Attachments:** IMG\_2929-1.jpeg; ATT00001.htm; park\_sidewalk.pdf; ATT00002.htm

Tag  
mm

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** Chelsey Kovar <[chelseykovar@gmail.com](mailto:chelseykovar@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** 7/4/20 2:27 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** Mike Procuk <[mprocuk@brooklynhts.org](mailto:mprocuk@brooklynhts.org)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Park Observations

Mayor Mike,

I sent you an email last week and hadn't heard back. I've since learned the email addresses on the Brooklyn Heights website aren't accessible by council members and are incorrect. This is an issue that needs rectified, immediately.

It's extremely important that citizens are able to contact their elected representatives and have the correct information to do so.

Please see my email below. With mask mandates happening all over the state, it's important for us to stay vigilant and comply with state requirements in regards to sports and our public spaces.

Enjoy your holiday!

Best,  
Chelsey Kovar

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Chelsey Kovar <[chelseykovar@gmail.com](mailto:chelseykovar@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** June 27, 2020 at 11:11:51 AM EDT  
**To:** [mayor@brooklynhts.org](mailto:mayor@brooklynhts.org)  
**Subject:** Park Observations

Hello!





