

# COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD \_\_\_\_\_ April 6, 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on April 6, 2021 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:	Kovar

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Mayor Procuk read a letter of thanks from Cuyahoga Heights Police Chief Brian Sturgill for the quick and professional work of Ptl. Gary Foote during a police chase and arrest in their village.

### POLICE CHIEF

- Chief Meade expounded on the letter from CHPD and said that although our new recruits are very enthusiastic, veteran officer Foote did a great job and the young officers on the scene learned a lot of valuable police work that day.
- Regarding the two damaged police vehicles: 2311 is still in the shop and 2318 was returned today and will have is striped and back in the fleet.
- Our deductible is \$500 and our insurance company will go after the drunk driver for the deductible and there is a warrant out for the arrest of the second suspect who was driving a stolen vehicle. When caught we will go after him for the deductible also.
- Unfortunately, the computer chips for the three new cruisers are tied up in China. The vehicles will be built in June, delivered to the dealership in July and on the road by late summer.
- Electronic Citation: we are still on the wait list for the equipment. We have the software needed already in the court and once we switch it will be cheaper than writing hard copy tickets.
- Body Camera Grant: we are awaiting the procedures on how to apply for the grants. We need to have a policy in place for the body cameras so we are currently writing and implementing the procedure so we are ready when we apply for the grant.
- We are currently rewriting and updating all of our policies and procedures (currently from 2003). Chief Meade has completed and implemented six policies that the insurance required by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Once updated we will get an Ohio Collaboration which will sanction our policies. This means that eventually there will be a universal policy and procedures manual for police departments throughout Ohio.
- New officers Blair, Samson & Watson completed their FTO and are now working on their own. Meder takes the state exam tomorrow and will be on the FTO program on Friday. All of the new officers including DiFranco will be trained on the AED's, CPR, Stop the Bleed, etc. by our fire department on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

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- Meghan Mauser (was to be sworn-in at the next council meeting) withdrew to take a job elsewhere. Because Chief Meade began a Contract of Conditional Offer of Employment she will be billed for the physical and psyche test.
- We have exhausted our test list and because our contract was a year-long contract it expires on September 2, 2021. We will have new testing done early next month under the contract and hopefully we will be a successful with the new list as with the previous list.

Mayor Procuk said that the county is offering a "Managing 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Stress" zoom meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm for \$20 per person. He urged both the police and fire departments to have some participants on the meeting.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

- The department will be reinstating building inspections (not done since COVID)
- Hose testing will begin next week
- Preparing for the ISO rating
- Will begin looking for a new ambulance. Will meet with some people next week to discuss the needs of the department.
- Would like to discuss new cardiac monitors. Ours are from 2011 and parts are no longer available. Would like a Safety Committee meeting to discuss the purchase. Right now there is a two for one sale which would save about \$30,000.

### SERVICE DIRECTOR

- We should know by the end of the week if we are receiving the Tree Canopy Grant. If received there is a mandatory meeting next Monday.
- Asked council to pass the Ordinance tonight for Action Door to replace the garage door in the Service Garage at a cost of \$6,640.
- Asked council for a motion to renew the Cuyahoga Landmark Fuel Contract and Mr. Dowling said we need an ordinance.
- Per our contract with Cargill Salt, we need to purchase an additional 140 tons of salt before Dec. 31, 2021. We can fit about 70 tons in our major salt bin. There will be a meeting at Brecksville City Hall on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 am if anyone is interested in attending with Mr. Hatgas.
- The new truck should be in within the next two to three weeks.
- Mrs. Presot asked how old the garage door is that he wants to replace and Mr. Hatgas said it is the original door from 1987 and parts are no longer available.

Mayor Procuk thanked the department for the job they did picking up blowing garbage, recyclables and totes during the hurricane type windstorm we had.

### ENGINEER

- Mr. Henry said the safety improvements on I-480 / Brookpark Rd / Jennings Freeway have closed the eastbound entrance ramp (going west on Brookpark) until August 4, 2021. Then the eastbound ramp (going east on Brookpark) will be closed. The work will continue through the summer with an expected end date of October, 2022.
- There will be four ordinances or resolutions authorizing Mr. Henry to prepare bids and specs for the Granger Road guardrail, the 2021 paving project, putting plans together for the upper park improvements and to apply for the DNR grant for the improvements to the park.

### RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Summer registrations have begun. Thanks to Donna Algeri for working with SSI to get the fee structure changed. We are going with paper registrations for non-residents.

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### SOCCER COMMISSIONER

- Soccer begins on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- There are sixty-nine players and forty-two Dynamites.
- Thanked the Service Department for their work in getting the fields ready and moving goals.
- Thanked Donna Algeri for her help.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- The Easter Drive-thru was quite successful. Over fifty seniors received the gifts.
- Art-in-the-Park zoom had twelve participants.
- Senior Lawn Cutting Program has sixty signed-up which went very smoothly.

### BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- The department has done several Point of Sale and various other inspections.
- Issued a Temporary Occupancy Permit for the second floor of the ICE project.
- 1200 Valley Belt Road improvements are moving along
- Cook Paving is looking at some property for expansion
- 1240 Valley Belt Road has a new tenant.
- 10 West Schaaf is sold and if it is rented it will need a re-inspection.

### LAW DIRECTOR

- NO REPORT
- Would like to go into Executive Session at the end of this meeting to discuss pending and potential litigation.

### CLERK / TREASURER

- In the process of closing the month of March.
- Put \$30,000 into the 204 Incentive Fund
- Put 5% - \$21,651 into the Capital Fund
- First R.I.T.A. drop of the month was \$432,432 which was \$20,000 lower than 2020
- The VNA incentive payout will be made in April
- Met with our Law Director and NIDEC representative to discuss their incentive payout.

**MOTION: Mr. Blados moved to pay First Suburbs Consortium \$3,000. Second by Mrs. Presot  
Motion carried 5-0**

**MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to pay Sedgwick \$1,710 for the annual contract for Group Rating for 2022. Second by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 5-0**

- Mr. Frank sent out the hospitalization request for information forms to be done online on FormFire by April 30, 2021.
- Mr. Walsh inquired about the discussion to form a committee. Mayor Procuik read the following from the FOP agreement:
  - Article 21 INSURANCE
    - 21.01: Effective January 1, 2020, employees shall continue to pay, on a monthly basis, thirteen percent (13%) of the Village's monthly premium cost for the medical plan (including prescription drug coverage) and the dental plan per the parties attached Memorandum of Understanding.

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- 21.02: The joint union-village committee for reviewing medical insurance plans will meet to determine coverage after June 30, 2021. Should the joint committee be unable to agree on medical insurance the matter shall be submitted to arbitration pursuant to Article 40. If the joint union-village committee agrees to recommend the purchase of other health insurance, and the recommendation is adopted by Village Council, this Article will be rewritten to describe the new coverage and any changes in deductions, contributions and co-pays.



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- Mayor Procuk said that we have a joint committee with members of council (Wage & Salary Committee) and the FOP representative. He would advise that all eligible employees and those currently using the insurance be invited to all discussions.
- Mr. Frank would like more input from additional employees to discuss the renewal since it affects them and their livelihood.
- Mr. Walsh suggested that when they decide to have this meeting for further discussion of the insurance can the ZOOM link be put out there so that the employees can be a part of the meeting.
  - Mayor Procuk said that all meetings are public and anyone can attend. We have an agreement with the FOP that when discussing a change in health insurance, they need to be notified and a joint committee meeting must be called. There are provisions in that agreement to pay those representatives for attending the meeting. He said that what he is hearing is that council wants the employees to attend the committee meetings but he feels that they will attend when something interests them. He also feels that until there is something to be considered or changed you won't get anyone to attend including the FOP.
  - If you want employees to a meeting by directive then you need to set up a structure to compensate them for attending those meetings otherwise it is strictly up to them.
  - Mr. Walsh said then what Mayor Procuk is saying that until there are changes or proposals it's kind of a wait and see and then have them come to the meeting. Mayor Procuk said there were a few interested parties that attended when council decided to go through the FormFire procedure and to go through several agents but I read the insurance clause in the FOP agreement and it simply says that the joint village committee plans to meet to determine coverage that will take place after June 30, 2021, so if there is something for that committee to consider, if you're planning to change deductibles, carriers, plans from Medical Mutual to United HealthCare or Aetna or something then those meetings would be held between the joint committee of the FOP and the Wage & Salary Committee and anyone who is interested could attend. When council made changes in the past the room was full of employees and spouses who were interested to know if their doctors would be in the network. Today you are just looking to see if there are any potential changes to put out to people. Once we have a proposal to put out to the union we would make sure that all the eligible employees on the health plan would know about such meetings.
  - Mr. Frank asked if it would be possible to hold a joint meeting during business hours every other week with certain people. He said we don't have a Healthcare Committee and Mayor Procuk said we do have one under the FOP agreement.
  - Mayor Procuk said that they are gathering information and when they are ready to consider the numbers and / or changing the plan they will get on board.

### MAYOR'S COURT

• Income for March	\$ 9,628.00
• State of Ohio	( 1,965.00)
• Indigent Driver & Alcohol	( 72.00)
• Reg. Enterprise Data Sharing System	( 220.00)
• BROOKLYN HEIGHTS	\$ 7,371.00

- April 1, 2021 was the first court date in April and there were 92 possible defendants. They processed 54 that morning. The most in Mayor Procuk's 20 years.

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### MAYOR'S REPORT

- Attended a meeting with West Creek Derek Schafer and Partners, an engineering firm to discuss the repurposing of the Manny Rock Landfill. Mayor Procuk suggested a Solar Field. He believes the State of Ohio and the Ohio EPA would support such an idea because the landfill looks out onto Interstate 480.
- Talked with the mayor of Seven Hills about the Belmont Dr. resurfacing and was told that they have completed their 2021 program and would be willing to consider it again in 2022.
- The Master Plan Project Team which is made up of the department heads will meet on Friday, April 16, 2021 on ZOOM from 11-12:30pm. The results of the survey will be discussed and made public. They will then be holding public meetings. He is working with a donor who is will to help beautify and refurbish the upper park and he will keep council abreast as that develops further.

Safety Committee meeting called for April 20, 2021 at 7:00 pm to discuss the possibility of an ambulance, cardiac monitors and defibrillators.

### ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

- **ORDINANCE 23-2021-** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ACTION DOOR TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A NEW DOOR FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT  
Sponsor: Mr. Blados  
Second: Mrs. Presot  
Yeas: Blados, Presot, Lahiff, Lasky & Walsh  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 23-2021 is adopted 5-0
- **ORDINANCE 24-2021-** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 248.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS (*increase non-resident recreation fees*)  
Sponsor: Mr. Lahiff  
Second: Mr. Walsh  
Yeas: Lahiff, Walsh, Blados, Presot & Lasky  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 24-2021 is adopted 5-0
- **ORDINANCE 25-2021-** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS TO SELL LAND OWNED BY THE VILLAGE (4739/4731 Van Epps) IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 721.01  
Sponsor: Mr. Lasky  
Second: Mr. Walsh  
*Discussion was held about the minimum bid figure. Mr. Frank read an email from Sheila regarding this. (Attached) Council agreed to have the property appraised prior to advertising for bids. Mr. Frank has the authority to employ an appraiser up to \$1,000 if no appraisal is done council will us the county figure of \$32,000.*  
Yeas: Lasky, Walsh, Lahiff, Blados & Presot
- **ORDINANCE 26-2021-** APRIL PAY ORDINANCE  
Sponsor: Mrs. Presot  
Second: Mr. Lasky  
Yeas: Presot, Lasky, Lahiff, Blados & Walsh  
Nays: None  
Ordinance 26-2021 is adopted 5-0

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**MOTION:** Mrs. Presot moved to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. Lahiff.

**Yeas:** Presot, Lahiff, Lasky, Blados & Walsh

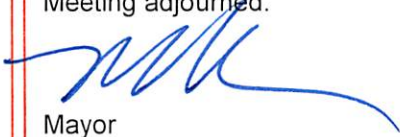
**Nays:** None

Included in the Executive Session was Fire Chief Stefanko, Asst. Fire Chief Lasky & Clerk/Treasurer Frank.

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

**Yeas:** All

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer

## Aaron Frank

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**From:** Sheila Salem <ssalem01@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Aaron Frank  
**Cc:** Jerome Dowling; Mike Procuik  
**Subject:** Land Sale

Aaron,

Below is a draft notice to be published in the newspaper for the sale of the land . Please note items in bold that will need to be addressed/amended by you. You may determine to open these bids at a regular meeting (if you are doing in person meetings by then) or at another time. Since you are asking \$25,000 for land \$20,000 would be a typical minimum bid number but feel free to amend if you wish. Remember the land cannot be sold at a certain price but must be awarded to highest bid pursuant to the statute. I will so be forwarding to you the language to include in the legislation for selling the land. Thanks  
Sheila

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LAND

The Village of Brooklyn Heights will offer for sale by sealed bids the following municipal real property: 4739 (4731) Van Epps Rd , Parcel # 531-01-024, Frontage 104:8, Lot Size 21,423 (.492 rectangular acre). Legal description available at Cuyahoga County Recorder's Office.

Sealed bids are to be made by United States Mail to Village of Brooklyn Heights, 345 Tuxedo Avenue Attn. Aaron Frank Brooklyn Heights, Ohio 44131. Bids will be received until last mail delivery on **May \_\_, 2021. (have to give notice 5 weeks in a row and then ten days after last notice is date you input here)** Bids shall contain the name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the bid. Bids will be opened at the regular Township meeting at 7:30 P.M. on May \_\_, 2021,(will need to input date when determined) at the Brooklyn Heights Municipal Center 345 Tuxedo Avenue, Brooklyn Heights, Ohio 44131 bidders need not be present for opening of bids.(confirm this is how/when wish to open bids. If don't wish to do at a meeting then set another date and time to do at the Municipal Center-must be public)

Terms of sale are: \$20,000.00 minimum bid,(confirm this is number you wish for minimum bid) possession upon payment of purchase price. Village reserves the right to reject any and all bids.