

COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD August 3, 2021 20

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on August 3, 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 (remote), Presot & Walsh
	Mayor:	Procuk
	Clerk/Treasurer:	Frank
	Law Director:	Dowling
	Engineer:	Henry
	Police Chief:	Meade
	Fire Chief:	Stefanko remote
	Asst. Chief:	Lasky remote
	Service Director:	Hatgas remote
	Bldg. Commissioner:	
	Asst. Bldg. Comm.:	Sonenstein remote
	Comm. Service Dir.:	Guilfoyle
	Recreation Dir.:	Krzynowek
	Soccer Dir.:	Shadd

MOTION: Mr. Walsh moved to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2021 regular meeting and the July 22, 2021 special meeting of council. Seconded by Mr. Blados Motion carried 5-0 as distributed.

ORDINANCE 66-2021 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HIRING OF THREE POLICEMEN: JEREMY JAMES MUSLEH, JAMES ALAN GROTENRATH AND MICHAEL PAUL KUCZERYN

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot

Second: Mr. Walsh

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

Nays: None

*** Mr. Lahiff said that "from a fiscal responsibility I was against spending the money, however I respect the police and the Chief of Police so I vote yes".*

Mayor Procuk said he was happy with the 5-0 vote considering the arguments that occurred during the committee meeting.

Ordinance 66-2021 is adopted 5-0

ORDINANCE 66-2021 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HIRING OF THREE POLICEMEN: JEREMY JAMES MUSLEH, JAMES ALAN GROTENRATH AND MICHAEL PAUL KUCZERYN

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot

Second: Mr. Walsh

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

Nays: None

*** Mr. Lahiff said that "from a fiscal responsibility I was against spending the money, however out of respect for the police and the Chief of Police that I voted yes".*

Mayor Procuk said "that's great, you got 5-0 after that rather heated committee meeting that the minutes are public record as well. So thank you for passing Ordinance 66-2021 5-0".

Ordinance 66-2021 is adopted 5-0

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Mayor Procuik then swore Jeremy James Musleh, James Alan Grotenrath and Michael Paul Kuczeryn as police officers to the Brooklyn Heights Police Department.

Each of the new officers thanked council and gave a short description of their previous employments and introduced their family members.

POLICE CHIEF

- Chief Meade read a letter of resignation from Ptl. Gary Foote. Gary served seven (7) years on the BH Fire Department and thirty-one plus (31+) years on the BH Police Department. His last day will be by August 13, 2021. Chief Meade responded in a letter to Gary that he will ask council that Gary's healthcare be paid through the end of August and that he be allowed to purchase his service revolver for \$1.00.

MOTION: Mr. Lahiff moved to carry Ptl. Gary Foote's healthcare to August 31, 2021 and that he be allowed to purchase his service revolver for \$1.00. Seconded by Mrs. Presot Motion carried 5-0

- Mayor Procuik mentioned that a bear has been confirmed in our area (NOT SITED) by animal control and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and asked that residents take steps to not attract it.

ORDINANCE 65-2021 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER TO PURCHASE THREE (3) VIDEO CAMERAS FOR USE BY THE BROOKLYN HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sponsor: Mr. Blados

Second: Mrs. Presot

Yeas: Blados, Presot, Lahiff, Lasky & Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 65-2021 is adopted 5-0

CORRESPONDENCE

- Read a letter of thanks to a policewoman who stopped on I-480E to help a gentleman while he waited to have a spare tire put on his vehicle.
- Acknowledged a letter from NOPEC which acknowledges that the village accepted NAC grant funding and it's not too early to begin working on next year's grant.
- Acknowledged a letter from NOPEC regarding sustainability task force if we are interested. Mayor Procuik will put it in committee.
- We paid our dues to NOACCA and currently we are applying for a grant for a large bus.
- Read a letter regarding Honeywell's decision to terminate our energy efficient agreement.
Attached

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- New ambulance will be ready in the next two weeks.
- Will put our obsolete ambulance on gov.com.
- Asked that a Safety Committee meeting be called to discuss current man power and the residency radius.
- A Safety Committee meeting will be held on August 17th at 7:15 pm to discuss man power and the residency radius.
- Received the FEMA grant to purchase boots, helmets and gloves. The village is responsible for 5% of the grant.
- The City of Cleveland has tapped FF Joe Plas as an Arson Fire Investigator. He will continue to serve on our department and this knowledge will benefit our village also.
- Independence is borrowing the gator for use at the Independence Home Days this week.

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SERVICE DIRECTOR

- The lights on diamond 2 will be replaced per our ten-year agreement with MUSCO Lighting. We plan to continue the ten-year agreement depending on the cost.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Next Senior Social will be August 24th.
- Art in the Park program concluded on Friday, July 30th. There were fifty-three (53) kids and thirty (30) volunteers involved. The high school volunteers racked up about 735 community service hours.
- We have submitted for the 2022 grant for Art in the Park asking for \$5,000 again and we should know in September if we receive it.
- The NOACCA grant deadline is this Friday, August 7th and we should know in November if we will receive it.
- The Back-to-School program began and we are helping seven (7) families with back packs and school supplies.

RECREATION DIRECTOR

- The summer sports season has concluded and our Boy's Majors team won the championship. The team was coached by Rocky Schuckert, Jason Sciano and Shane Tommer.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- Several Point of Sale Inspections
- Rental property registrations and inspections
- 600 W. Resource has made some minor modifications
- Old J.V. Janitorial building (now a repair shop) has been greatly improved.
- We have a property in the village, licensed by the State, growing hemp, cannabis and marijuana. They have signs out advertising this also. Mayor Procuk said we would take a look at the ordinances on the moratorium and if they have expired he will call for an Ordinance Committee meeting.

ENGINEER

- In contact with our insurance company regarding the Tuxedo roadway repair where the water main broke. The forensics evaluation should be completed by the end of this week.
- The Service Department has done a great job containing the gravel.
- Mr. Henry is concerned that if we do anything they wouldn't back it and would not pay out anything.
- He anticipates getting the report from the insurance company this week and is hoping that by the Streets meeting on August 17th there is some movement to have the area repaired. Not only do we need to repair the hole from the break, but the pavement buckled closer to the Community Center drive and that repair will be costly. Cleveland will not pay for that area that is damaged.
- By the middle of August we will have the Master Plan and report to council in September.

CLERK / TREASURER

- Working on closing out July, 2021
- 5% (\$30,483) put in Capital investments
- \$30,000 into the incentive fund
- First R.I.T.A drop was \$370,000

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MAYOR'S COURT

• Income for July	\$ 11,225.00
• State of Ohio	(1,485.50)
• Indigent Driver & Alcohol	(49.50)
• Reg. Enterprise Data Sharing System	(155.00)
• BROOKLYN HEIGHTS	\$ 9,535.20

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Procuk obtained a copy of the Valley View ordinance from 1999 regarding their park which says "only residents and their guests may use the park". He said that when council begins discussing the park, he know this will come up so he will put a copy in their mail and the Ordinance Committee can begin the discussion.
- Because of the turmoil with getting the healthcare contract signed, Medical Mutual gave us July 1st as the effective date and will resubmit the claims from the changeover because the benefits package has some vast differences to what it was prior. Due to the Memorandum of Understanding of a \$250 deductible with the Police Union we had to pay a two of the police officers the \$250 in excess according to the terms of the contract. Mayor Procuk said he did not do anything with the other village employees, because while in essence the police officers are due the \$250 in excess the others still have to pay the \$500 deductible for the year.
- While the employees were given explicit instructions on the healthcare, we will have Ted Biskind come out and meet with them to explain the plan.
- Mayor Procuk attended the Board of Health meeting on July 28th and was recognized to speak even though he was not on the agenda. He gave them the latest colorized aerials. He has many people helping him with his presentation.
- The public Board of Health meeting will be on August 11th and residents will be allowed to speak for three (3) minutes each.
- Thanked Councilwoman Presot, Councilman Blados and Councilman Walsh for their help in promoting the meeting.
- There will be busses for those who choose to use them.

LAW DIRECTOR

- Need to amend a few typos in the charter amendments.
- Sheila will attend the next meeting as Mr. Dowling will be on vacation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks, Playground and Community Services Committee held a short public hearing to present an application for the Community Services Department for a grant to apply for a new large bus for the village.

Mr. Lasky asked for additional information regarding Honeywell cancelling the maintenance agreement and Mayor Procuk explained that several years ago, when the upgrade was on council floor that the maintenance was included. Honeywell feels that we owed them around \$17,000 for the maintenance agreement. There was threatened litigation on both sides and he felt that it was better to spend a few hundred dollars on service calls than to pay them \$17,000 because we firmly believed that it was the agreement even though they felt differently. We are potentially walking away with substantial savings. Mayor Procuk said that the agreement was about to run its course in about six months. Basically, if we need them to come out to check the efficiency on something we will pay a service call instead of a maintenance agreement for the final two years which they backdated to 2019 so it will expire in the next few months.

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Mr. Lasky also asked where the funding for the lighting will come from. Mayor Procuk said that when the school gave us the lights we also contracted with MUSCO and part of the purchase agreement included the replacement of all lamps every ten years. When the first agreement expired council choose to purchase another warranty or agreement for a complete replacement, thus we will not be paying for the bulb replacement because it is under the current agreement.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE 67-2021 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 54-2021 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BROOKLYN HEIGHTS VILLAGE CHARTER, RECOMMENDED BY THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION, RELATING TO PROCUREMENT OF OUTSIDE AUDITOR TO REQUIRE THREE BIDS

Sponsor: Mrs. Presot

Second: Mr. Blados

Yeas: Presot, Blados, Lahiff, Lasky & Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 67-2021 is adopted 5-0

ORDINANCE 68-2021 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO, 60-2021 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BROOKLYN HEIGHTS VILLAGE CHARTER, RECOMMENDED BY THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION, RELATING TO CANDIDATES SEEKING NOMINATION SHALL FILE PETITIONS NO LATER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS PRIOR TO ELECTION

Sponsor: Mr. Lasky

Second: Mrs. Presot

Yeas: Lasky, Presot, Lahiff, Blados & Walsh

Nays: None

Ordinance 68-2021 is adopted 5-0

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

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer