

# COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD \_\_\_\_\_ April 5, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on April 5, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Michael Procuk presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

Present at roll call:

Council Members:	Berzins, Blados, Lasky, Walsh
Mayor:	Procuk
Clerk/Treasurer:	Frank
Law Director:	
Assistant Law Director:	Mason
Engineer:	Henry
Police Chief:	Meade
Fire Chief:	Stefanko
Asst. Fire Chief	
Acting Service Dir:	Florjancic
Bldg. Commissioner:	
Asst. Bldg. Comm.	Sonenstein
Comm. Service Dir:	Guilfoyle
Recreation Dir:	Krzynowek
Soccer Commissioner:	Schadd

GUESTS: Brian Kovar, Chelsey Kovar,  
Don Griesmer, Susie Griesmer

**MOTION:** Mr. Berzins moved to excuse the absence of Council Member Jennifer Presot. Seconded by Mr. Walsh. Motion carried 4-0.

**MOTION:** Mr. Walsh moved to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2022 Regular Council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Blados. Motion carried 4-0

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A reminder letter, dated April 4, 2022 from Tony Perlatti, Director of Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, stating that the polls will be open in Brooklyn Heights on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. Ballot items are not yet confirmed.
- An email from Irene Jones from Josiah's House asking to use the Village Community Center on April 20, 2022 and that all fees be waived.

**MOTION:** Mr. Lasky moved to waive the fees for use of the Community Center for Josiah's House on April 20, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Berzins. Motion carried 4-0.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

- Brian Kovar introduced himself representing the Boys U10 Soccer Team and Johnny Griesmer introduced himself representing the Boys U10-12 Soccer Team.
- Mr. Griesmer is asking that both teams leave the SRSL (Suburban Recreational Soccer League) in the fall of 2022 to join the OHTSL (Ohio Travel Soccer League) and are asking for continued Brooklyn Heights sponsorship, financial backing and use of the soccer fields.

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- Council members Mr. Walsh and Mr. Lasky asked numerous questions to confirm their request. Mr. Walsh outlined the Brooklyn Heights Recreation Program which does not include traveling teams for any sport.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT / DAVE MEADE**

- Chief Meade asked for two motions:

**MOTION:** Mr. Walsh moved to pay Firehawk Automotive \$1,069.95. Seconded by Mr. Blados. Motion carried 4-0.

**MOTION:** Mr. Berzins moved to amend the North Royalton Jail agreement due to the cost increase from \$125 to \$135 plus a \$100 charge if the prisoner needs medical attention. Seconded by Mr. Walsh. Motion carried 4-0.

- Chief Meade reported that the police testing has been completed. They have excellent candidates and the process is going smoothly. They hope to have two new officers sworn in by the end of May
- The bike patrol will be in force this summer with two certified officers.
- They will be utilizing part-time officers to work in the park this summer and will use Park Security to fill shifts as needed. Chief Meade explained that police officers, unlike Park Security, can issue citations because they have laws of arrest and laws to ticket. There may not be officers there on every shift but will as much as possible.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT / JOE STEFANKO**

- Chief Stefanko reiterated his report at the Safety Committee meeting earlier regarding the potential purchase of a fire truck.

### **SERVICE DEPARTMENT / MIKE FLORJANCIK**

- Mr. Florjancic outlined estimates received for tree removal throughout the park. Several trees are dead and need to be removed. He is going to provide one more estimate and submit to council.
- There was a brief discussion about a residential tree concern.
- Mr. Florjancic said he took photos of the three trucks they're getting rid of and they will get them on govdeals.com.
- Mayor Procuk reported that the Service Department has been operating with one less employee for six years and now they are down to five. He asked Mr. Florjancic if they are ready for the upcoming season regarding the park activity and senior grass cutting. Mr. Florjancic said they will be ready to go but getting a sixth and seventh guy in the department prior to snow plowing will be a big plus because they have been really strained.

### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT / DALE KRZYNOWEK**

- Mr. Krzynowek reported that online baseball signups have started. Many thanks to Donna Algeri; she's done a great job moving over from the SI Play site to SportsEngine.
- As of this morning we have 33 baseball players, 12 T-Ball players and 12 Softball players sign up. Hopefully everyone will sign up prior to the deadline.
- Mayor Procuk suggested sending reminders notices out so we have done our due diligence.
- Council Member Lasky suggested passing something out at the Easter Egg Hunt and Mr. Krzynowek said he would get a flyer to him for distribution.

### **SOCCER / NARLIN SHADD**

- Mr. Shadd shared that we have 102 players ready to go in our rec soccer program.

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- The first games begin Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> with the U11 Girls kicking off at 12:00 pm and the U13 co-ed team kicks off at 1:30 p.m.
- He further shared that there is a referee shortage throughout the league and he may have to referee some games.
- Kid's soccer shirts should arrive tomorrow.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES / THEA GUILFOYLE**

- Ms. Guilfoyle reported that the monthly senior luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Senior Snow Removal has wrapped up and the contractor removed all the stakes and has repaired lawn damage caused by the plows. If additional damage reports are called in they will be handled in a timely manner.
- Senior Lawn Cutting sign up is well underway and as of today, we have 64 seniors signed up. We expect possibly a dozen more.
- Ms. Guilfoyle shared that per Donna Algeri's administrative view; all is going well with the new online sport sign up after a very rough transition and feels it may be a very good program for us.
- Art in the Park will offer two spring sessions at the Community Center on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, both from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

### **ENGINEERING / MIKE HENRY**

- Seven Hills opened the bidding for the Belmont resurfacing. The engineer's estimate was \$154,000 and it came in at \$160,000. Seven Hills will administer the inspection.
- The bidding opened last Friday for the Galway project and TC Construction was the lowest bidder coming in at \$303,000.
- He will work on getting the clean water department's reimbursement set back up again.
- Mr. Henry reviewed the legislation for the Upper Park improvements that council will vote on. He expects work to begin in late spring and last throughout most of the summer.
- Work on the village hall parking lot is out for bid now and he will have legislation ready for the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT / HOWARD SONENSTEIN**

- We've had a number of commercial plans come in for renovations and remodels. We've also had new tenants coming in and residential point of sale inspections.

### **LAW DIRECTOR / JERRY DOWLING**

- Assistant Law Director Mr. Mason reported on an opioid lawsuit that was filed back in 2018 by his firm. It was a global settlement with political subdivisions and government entities that filed this lawsuit. Currently they are verifying that all the involved entities are correct. It is moving slowly based on the complexity of the litigation.

### **CLERK-TREASURER / AARON FRANK**

**MOTION:** Mr. Lasky moved to pay the annual fee for Sedgwick, our Worker's Compensation third party administrator, in the amount of \$1,795. Seconded by Mr. Walsh. Motion carried 4-0.

- We filed the three tax exemptions for the three land parcels. They were hand-delivered to the County and told it will take six months to a year for the state to get back to us.
- The annual budget was entered and approved.
- The wire transfer is complete for the new service truck and the new plates should come in soon.
- He received a couple of quotes for the fire truck proposal.

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- \$42,874 was transferred into the Capital fund and the usual \$30,000 into the Economic Development fund.
- The first RITA drop this month was \$300,000, less the fee of \$9,000 for a total of \$291,000.
- The audit is moving along well and we are waiting to see if they need additional information.
- The balances for this month look good with 5.1 million in the General Fund, 1.2 million in the Capital Fund, and \$625,000 in the Economic Development Fund.
- Approved transactions were handled for the payment to the school, University Hospitals and we utilized the new unclaimed fund was utilized to replace an uncashed check from 2019.
- Through the first quarter we have a surplus of \$329,000 in the General Fund and \$90,000 in the Capital Fund.
- We are one quarter through the year and are operating 2% under budget.

### MAYOR'S REPORT / MICHAEL PROCUK

- We are a little over \$200,000 ahead of the predicted budget, operating at almost 2% under budget through the first quarter.
- The Cuyahoga County Healthy Urban Tree Canopy Program has awarded Brooklyn Heights a grant in the amount of \$34,875 for 2022. We will be attending the Awards Reimbursement Policy webinar on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- We are waiting to hear from the attorneys on the Deny the Permit Landfill hearing date.
- I received a quote from Brilliant Sign for one marquee (Tuxedo & Schaaf) in the amount of \$26,221. I will leave it in the Streets Committee for further discussion.
- We are planning to have a Memorial Day parade, hopefully that will involve the Park Board or the Service Clubs. The Elks Club is already booked to carry the large flag.
- There is still discussion regarding the village newsletter, The Breeze. In the meantime, Thea and I are sending out a mailer this week to keep residents informed. Everything is on the website and social media including meeting minutes.
- Mayor ProcuK asked Council if they had any recommendation on the HR firms that have been considered. Unless Council would like to discuss further, legislation should be drawn up for the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### MAYOR'S COURT

Income for March	\$20,963.39
Victims of Violent Crimes	(657.00)
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	(241.50)
State Bond Surcharge	(175.00)
Seatbelt Violation	(80.00)
State of Ohio	(3,025.50)
Indigent Defense Support	(1,872.00)
Indigent Driver Alcohol Treatment Fund	(103.50)
Reg. Enterprise Data Sharing System	(355.00)
Brooklyn Heights	\$17,479.39

### SAFETY COMMITTEE

- Mr. Walsh stood in for Mrs. Presot and ran the Safety Meeting discussing the potential fire truck purchase with Fire Chief Stefanko and Assistant Chief Mike Lasky. It was decided verbally to proceed with legislation for the purchase.

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### **ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

- Mr. Walsh stood in for Mrs. Presot and ran the Ordinance Meeting to discuss fireworks legislation with the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and Police Chief.

### **PARK, PLAYGROUND & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- Mr. Blados held a meeting to discuss dug outs for Diamond #2 and other needed ball park repairs.
- Mr. Blados called a meeting for Community Services to discuss the Art in the Park grant requirements and a new programming idea brought to us by a resident.
- Mr. Blados called a meeting for Parks & Playground to further discuss the dugout improvements.
- Mr. Blados requested a Special Committee Meeting to discuss streets, beautification and the park.

### **CLERK/TREASURER FRANK REVIEWED THE SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

April 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 p.m.	Discuss all current projects
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:15 p.m.	Discuss Art in the Park grant requirements, resident program idea.

### **ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE 27-2022** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS, INC. TO PROVIDE SOFTWARE SUPPORT FOR THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Sponsor: Mr. Walsh

Second: Mr. Berzins

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 27-2022 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 28-2022** AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE EMERGENCY PAVEMENT REPAIR ON TUXEDO AVENUE AS A RESULT OF THE WATER MAIN BREAK CONTRACTED BY PROTECT-A-COTE, INC.

Sponsor: Mr. Lasky

Second: Mr. Blados

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 28-2022 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 29-2022** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRADE LINE INC., FOR UPPER PARK BASKETBALL & PICKLEBALL COURTS IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Sponsor: All of Council

Second: Mr. Lasky

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 29-2022 is adopted 4-0

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**ORDINANCE 30-2022** AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRADE LINE INC., FOR THE UPPER PARK PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Sponsor: All of Council

Second: Mr. Berzins

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 30-2022 is adopted 4-0

**ORDINANCE 31-2022** APRIL PAY ORDINANCE

Sponsor: Mr. Walsh

Second: Mr. Blados

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 31-2022 is adopted 4-0

**RESOLUTION 04-2022** AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND FIRMLY STATING THAT THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS STAND ON THE SIDE OF FREEDOM AND INDIVIDUAL SELF-DETERMINATION AND SELF-GOVERNANCE

Sponsor: All of Council

Second: Mr. Walsh

Yeas: 4 / Nays: 0

Resolution 04-2022 is adopted 4-0

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

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk/Treasurer