

COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD: January 16, 2024

A meeting of the Council of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio was held on January 16, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. with Mark Lasky, President Pro Tem, presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time.

Present at roll call:

Council Members	Lasky, Schuckert, Presot, Tommer, Walsh
Mayor	
Clerk/Treasurer	Frank
Law Director	
Assistant Law Director	
Engineer	Zoldak
Police Chief	
Fire Chief	
Asst. Fire Chief	
Service Director	Blados
Bldg. Commissioner	
Asst. Bldg. Comm.	
Comm. Service Director	
Recreation Director	
Soccer Commissioner	

GUESTS: Numerous Residents

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Cuyahoga Heights Schools Superintendent Tom Evans, Assistant Superintendent Matthew Young, Treasurer Matt Muccio, and Teacher/Coach Al Martin gave an update about the where the school stands financially, its building conditions, and their recent achievements. They spoke about all of the things the school offers to their students and how well the students perform academically. Lyndie Schuckert asked if they had publicly discussed what programs are at risk of being eliminated. Mr. Evans replied, yes but not publicly. Corey Gwynn had some nice things to say about the Village and the school district. Becky Gogol asked what the driving factor is creating the federal and state percentage is to be so low compared to the state average. Mr. Evans stated most of the federal money is determined by the number of free and reduced lunches, he said Cuyahoga Heights School District is at 23% while Parma City Schools, a larger school district, is at 60% so they receive more federal money than smaller school districts.

- Val Snyder, at 708 North Street, spoke about a sink hole in the back of her property. She said it's about 10 feet wide and 20 feet deep. She is concerned that a child or animal will get hurt and is asking Council for their help to repair the sink hole. There is currently a small fence and caution tape around the hole. Mr. Lasky asked if Mr. Blados and Ms. Zoldak have seen it, Mr. Blados replied yes and they are looking into different options and cost estimates.

CORRESPONDENCE / MARK LASKY

- Mr. Lasky read a letter from the Village of Brooklyn Heights to Larry Zakrajsek, accepting his irrevocable and voluntary resignation from employment of the Village.

• An email was received from Engineer Ms. Zoldak stating that she spoke to ODOT and they informed her that the I-480 entrance ramp off of Granger Road eastbound will be permanently closed. They will reopen it only temporally as a detour during another ODOT project. Mr. Lasky read an email from ODOT Engineer, Richard Hulick giving an explanation and stating that if they had any questions they could contact Tony Toth at Anthony.Toth@dot.ohio.gov or by phone at 216-584-2198. Chief Lasky responded to Ms. Zoldak's email, stating he would still like to see if there is another plan, saying it's a problem getting to their calls due to 176 lanes and traffic. Chief Stefanko wrote that it will be a big problem for emergency vehicles and mutual aid companies to use the new ramp. He stated that they will not be able to access an accident or victims in a reasonable time period. He asked if there is anyone they could talk to about this. Resident Cory Gwynn asked if they have been able to quantify the amount of accidents that have happened in that area. Mr. Lasky said that Chief Meade and the Police Departments are looking into that.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT / JOE BLADOS

• Mr. Blados stated that everything is going great in the Service Department and the new company, Cargill is working out well.

ENGINEER / JENNIFER ZOLDAK

• Ms. Zoldak advised Council that they are going to submit an application to Senator Miller for a grant for sewer projects and this will be due on January 19th, 2024. Mr. Frank asked if this was for fiscal year 2024 or 2025 and Ms. Zoldak stated they haven't given those details yet.

CLERK-TREASURER / AARON FRANK

MOTION: Presot moved to pay \$1,004 to Attorney David Toetz for various hours spent with Parma Municipal Court. Seconded by Walsh. Motion carried 5-0.

• Mr. Frank informed Council that he has been considering converting their financial reporting from the current GASB 34 to the regulatory statement for fiscal year 2023 and on. He has reached out to the Senior Audit Manager asking if there is anything else they need from him, he responded there is nothing else required at this time, just to make sure Mr. Frank chooses the correct reporting type when he files for 2023. Mr. Frank said this will be more efficient for them and will be at a reduced cost.

• Mr. Frank said he met with Special Projects Coordinator, Joe Presot, who has helped with record retention in the past and Mr. Frank is suggesting having all of their permanent records converted to digital. He has an estimate for 132 binders at \$95 per binder, they will remove all staples and paper clips, then scan them. This will make it easier to search legislation and minutes. The initial scan would be approximately \$12,500 and then there will be annual maintenance fees.

• Mr. Frank reported, the General Fund has a 2.8M end balance with a variance surplus of \$199,000. The SCM&R fund has an ending balance of \$258,000. The Economic Development fund ended with \$701,000. The ARPA money is at \$175,000 and Mr. Frank said that goes to elevators. The Capital Fund starting balance is \$609,000. Mr. Frank was happy to share they ended at 3.75% under budget and said good job to department heads.

FINANCE COMMITTEE / MATT WALSH

• Mr. Walsh stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and Mr. Frank got them up to date with everything going on.

• A Finance Committee meeting was called and is scheduled for February 6th, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

PARKS, PLAYGROUND, & COMMUNITY SERVICES / JENNIFER PRESOT

• Mrs. Presot stated the Parks, Playground, & Community Services met this evening to discuss the Upper Park installation.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE 09-2024 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CLERK/TREASURER TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO FUND 492 THE SPRING ROAD CONSTRUCTION FUND

Sponsor: Walsh

Second: Schuckert

Yeas: 5 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 09-2024 is adopted 5-0

ORDINANCE 10-2024 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES CHAPTER 1491 HOUSING CODE

Sponsor: Schuckert

Second: Presot

Yeas: 5 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 10-2024 is adopted 5-0

ORDINANCE 11-2024 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ECLIPSE CO., LLC FOR THE PAD PREPARATION AND UTILITY CONNECTIONS FOR THE NEW ADA-COMPLIANT RESTROOM IN THE UPPER PARK

Sponsor: Presot

Second: Tommer

Yeas: 5 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 11-2024 is adopted 5-0

ORDINANCE 12-2024 JANUARY PAY ORDINANCE

Sponsor: Walsh

Second: Schuckert

Yeas: 5 / Nays: 0

Ordinance 12-2024 is adopted 5-0

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved by Walsh and seconded by Tommer that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: All

Meeting adjourned.

~~Mayor~~

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM

Mark Hooley


Clerk/Treasurer