

## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

### BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

**November 12, 2013**

**7:06 p.m.**

Present: Katie Gallagher  
Tom Murphy  
Kathy Pucci  
Tony DeMarco  
Ron Van Kirk  
Colleen Gallagher

Absent: Kevin Tanski

Mayor Balbier was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Murphy, second by Van Kirk to approve the minutes from the Special meeting of November 7, 2013. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Approve:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, Van Kirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. (**APPROVED**)

#### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

*Earl Bloam* of 4720 Forest Edge Dr. wanted to publicly thank the Police Dispatcher, Police Officer, and two Firemen EMS who helped him at home early Monday morning. They were courteous, professional, and he appreciates all their efforts in helping him. He asked the Chiefs to express his sincere appreciation, to those who responded, and all the members. We're lucky in Brooklyn to have these men and women who serve and help us.

*Lou Changeri* of 8972 Trail Run, said at the last meeting he gave a spiel on the Constitution. What he wants to know is, for the last meetings prior to election there were School Board members, the Superintendent and Treasurer, kids from classes; and now that's it's passed he sees one member, and nothing was said. Someone should be here thanking the voters. Congratulated the winners in the election. Again questioned where everyone was.

*Ryan Kelber*, Athletic Director, Brooklyn City Schools, 9200 Biddulph Rd., said Superintendent Walker is in Columbus right now with most of the School Board members at a state conference. On behalf of the Administration, the Brooklyn City Schools say thank you to everyone in the Brooklyn community for their support of the renewal issue, and are grateful for the continued support of the school system. The Administration will continue to communicate with Council on the construction and improvement of the District. Information is on the District website, including preliminary renderings and proposed plans for the new PK-7 building, updates on the athletic facilities, and renovations in the current high school. The District looks forward to collaborating with the Recreation Dept. on the use of the new athletic facilities and practice fields. Also, all athletic schedules are on the website.

*Jim Oper* of 4823 Elizabeth Ln., member of Brooklyn Board of Education, is not at the conference. He echoed the comments that the Board of Education, the Administration and the students are all grateful to the city and their support of the Brooklyn Schools Issue 78 passage of the renewal levy. Thanked everyone again, and the members of Council who supported the levy. They look forward to good things in the future from Brooklyn Schools, in collaboration with the city.

*Ed Zorn* of 4878 Autumn Ln., said at the Safety Comm. meeting he suggested a stop sign at Springwood and Idlewood, in addition to the other stop sign requested for Melody and Idlewood. They would be similar to stop signs at W. 144<sup>th</sup> and Adrian, and Flowerdale and W. 58<sup>th</sup>. Though a sign would assist the east section of Idlewood, but there is a problem with the western end, so he is requesting a stop sign at Springwood. As far

as the legality of the stop signs there, other cities have implemented them, so maybe we can look at it harder. Addressed the drivers who use Idlewood as a bypass for Biddulph/Ridge to respect the residential streets that they are, and do not crash stop signs, speed, tailgate and push cars doing the speed limit, pass cars to speed by, and do dodge-em with parked vehicles. Be aware of children and grandchildren playing there.

*Marc Bukzar* of 4767 Elizabeth Ln., thanked service men and women for commitment and service. Congratulated the elected Councilmembers. Said it was a privilege and honor to run against them, and knows the city is in very good hands. Met those running during the campaign process and has been taken aback at the great quality of people wanting to help better the city. It's a thankless job, so is taking the time to thank the Council for their time and efforts, and appreciates it as a resident. Would be glad to help in any way. He's proud to call Brooklyn home.

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:**

Finance Committee (Councilwoman Pucci): The Committee met earlier and recommended approval of advertising for bids for HVAC maintenance for the Rec Center; and the other two items are deferred to the next meeting: bid approval for restroom renovations at Rec Center (bids substantially higher priced, checking on disparity, and will have to amend appropriations), and authorization to purchase a fire pumper/truck (approx \$450,000 – it's the first hearing about it, and other things will have to be discussed, such as how to pay for it). Also announced the Economic Development Committee has a tentative date for a meeting on Wed., Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. If finalized it will be posted on the website.

Domestic Violence Commission (Councilwoman C. Gallagher): The Committee met and discussed the epidemic of human trafficking, which is in Ohio. The Attorney General recreated the Human Trafficking Commission to address human trafficking on the state level. There are legislative efforts that have provided tools for prosecution of traffickers and provide services to victims. House Bill 262 was passed in June, Ohio Safe Harbor Law, which raises the penalty for trafficking from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> degree felony and a mandatory 10-15 year prison term. More tips will come as more information is out in the public. She thanked Superintendent Walker for having one of their speakers address the students on human trafficking and raising awareness.

Planning Commission (Councilwoman K. Gallagher): The Commission met Thurs., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.: tabled a request from Alexander Dyshko for similar use to permitted use approval for Relaxation Massage business at 7405 Memphis and a background check was requested; approved a request from Robert Senkar, MBM Ohio, LLC for conditional use approval to occupy an existing vacant building at 5020 Tiedeman Rd. with a Buffalo Wild Wings; approved a request from Watkins Lighting and Signs and Co. to install a 37-1/2 square foot illuminated sign on the building front of 7305 Northcliff for identification of H & R Block; approved a request from Archer Sign Corp. to install illuminated free-standing sign replacement at 8500 Clinton for identification of Ziegler Tire; approved a request from Neon and Signs to install wall-mounted illuminated sign on building front at 4782 Ridge for identification of Love Threading Bar, contingent on the approval of Northridge Plaza; approved a request from Brooklyn Compass, LLC for preliminary site plan approval to construct a 2700 square foot building for Title Buck\$ at 10800 Brookpark Rd.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

**Katie Gallagher:** Thanked the residents who supported her in the election. Said she's committed to working hard representing them and putting tax dollars to good use. Call her if there is anything she can help with. This weekend helped plant trees along Stickney Creek in Memorial Park with Friends of Big Creek and Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization. Through a grant by the U.S. Forest Service, the organizations, and dozens of Brooklyn resident volunteers, they were able to help in the riparian reforestation in the community; where the trees will help reduce flooding, absorb storm water, and prevent erosion. She thanked the two organizations and the volunteers. Economic Development Director Migliorino put together a marketing steering committee of various representatives of the community; focusing on rebranding Brooklyn, identifying community needs, and enhancing community development. The committee has had preliminary discussions, and will now reach out to residents to get involved. Dir. Migliorino created various focus groups to discuss Brooklyn's future, which will include residents, young professionals, new residents, investors, real estate agents, businesses, school representatives, and faith based

organizations. To get involved in volunteering to participate in one of the focus groups, contact Fran at 635-4289. She's encouraged after input from residents who want to volunteer after they saw it in her newsletter. She believes Brooklyn has to reconnect with the community values that drew people to Brooklyn, and this steering committee is a great first step. But there's still a lot of work, so asked people to come.

**Tom Murphy:** Thanked those who spoke tonight. Echoed congratulations to those who won in the election.

**Tony DeMarco:** Congratulated the supporters of the school levy, as he did. He thinks those who made a significant financial decision, which this was, will bear fruit from that for many years. Congratulated the winners of the election for Council, and also those who worked at going door to door, meeting residents, and telling their stories, and hope they stay involved. Looks forward to working with the new members of Council next year.

**Ron Van Kirk:** Thanked all the veterans in Brooklyn. Took part in a lunch for veterans. Thanked them for all of their service, for sacrifices made. Last Thursday attended the grand opening of Sheetz on Tiedeman. Thanked the store manager for the invitation. He's grateful we have this new store in Brooklyn. According to CEO Joe Sheetz, present at the opening, this was their 463<sup>rd</sup> store they've opened. Thanks them also for the timing on the traffic lights on Tiedeman, and received calls from residents and business employees happy with the traffic flow. They also have great gas prices. Congratulated Kevin Tanski, Kate Gallagher, Kathy Pucci and Mary Balbier on winning the four Council seats, as well as the other candidates who ran. He looks forward to working with them for the betterment of Brooklyn.

**Colleen Gallagher:** Congratulated newly elected officials. Thanked the candidates who ran a positive election, and hopes the candidates who did not win will stay involved in the city. Thanked Mr. Zorn for his comments, as she's her strongest advocate on finding a solution to the speeding problems on Idlewood; as Chief Mielke is still investigating, she hopes a solution will be found in the near future.

**Kathy Pucci:** Thanked veterans who served in the past, and are currently serving. Council received a memo from Comm. Fitzgerald about strengthening the city's inspection program. Some of our legislation will have to be tweaked in 2014, with some legislation presented at the next meeting. There's a SAFE Routes to School meeting Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> in the library conference room at Brookridge. Last Wednesday she attended the Big Creek Balanced Growth Partnership meeting, and thanked Parma Hts. Mayor Mike Byrne for hosting it, and also the Friends of Big Creek for their efforts. Also attended the presentation and discussion of the current design phase for the new Pre-K-7 building for the schools. The architects got input already from administrators and teachers. The footprint of the building was finalized, along with the general layout; but they're tweaking some specific areas inside the building as it goes to final design phase. She asked about the possibility of the community being able to use some facilities in the field house; they are open to discussing it, though not knowing the full extend for use of that. There will be a vacancy on Council, to be filled by an appointment of Council, to be December 31<sup>st</sup>. There is a set process that's been used. The position is advertised, a deadline to respond is set, letters sent to applicants for date and time for interview process. There will be a fact sheet that would be helpful for them. She hopes to be able to fill the vacancy shortly after the beginning of the year, so watch the website for posting information. Thanked the residents for electing her to another term on Council. She works hard to earn their trust and respect and appreciates their vote of confidence. Also thanked her family, friends and supporters. Congratulated those who won, and also thanked those who run, acknowledging it's not an easy task and a lot of work. Thanked everyone for running, adding it was a good slate of candidates, and positive campaigns.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Balbier absent.**

Councilwoman Katie Gallagher said in regard to the Balanced Growth Partnership meeting, when she spoke to Bob Gardin this weekend he mentioned that Pres. Pucci would be setting up a work session; and relating to the monies they're asking the city to contribute through a partnership, and the economic impact on the city, it would be good to have a presentation that would be helpful for all of Council. Pres. Pucci said she had

sent an e-mail to all of Council, but has not heard any response from anyone. She said she will contact Mr. Gardin about it.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

Finance Dir. Enovitch: Gave a financial overview through the month of October. Revenues were \$2,075,696.03; year to date, \$22,786,207.82. Expenses for October, \$1,514,252.10 (83% of total revenues); year to date, \$18,875,085.07. Cash position is strong, total in all funds, \$21,511,619.64. General Fund unencumbered balance is \$7,571,683.22 – far in excess of the guidelines of 5-20% of the annual appropriations. As part of his commitment to Council during discussions relative to his appointment, he said he would meet with the top taxpayers. Today is day 19 for him, and he has met with the leadership team at Arrow International (John Gallagher), Ferragon Corp. (Reed McGivney and team), Loving Cup Day Care, and Cenveo Envelope Mfg. He has a meeting with Key Corp. on Friday, and three or four other meetings scheduled. When he is finished he will give Council a summary report of their comments. Expect an amended annual appropriation around the beginning of December, as well as an initial appropriation ordinance for 2014. Gave his appreciation to the Mayor and his staff for continued support in his position, and to Council. Told them to not hesitate to call him for anything. He will not be present for the next Council meeting.

Chief Zemek: The Dept. took delivery of the new ambulance, and it is now at the dealer for 1-2 weeks finishing up the graphics, letterings and other dealer prep items. Once they have it back old radios will be transferred from the old ambulance and other pieces of equipment, and hopefully in service by December 1<sup>st</sup>. He will keep everyone apprised because he'd like to have an open house to see the new ambulance. Saturday afternoon the Dept. had a call of a working fire at Super K-Mart. There was a heavy volume of fire from an outside display under the overhang. The heat blew out the glass windows and melted the aluminum framing on the outside doors. He, the State Fire Marshals, County Fire Investigation Unit, and our own Dept. investigated, and there is no concrete proof as the security camera was not pointed in that direction, the cause of the fire will remain undetermined. According to the senior management at K-Mart their loss is in excess of \$400,000.

Service Dir. Verba: Reminding residents, for the third time now, not to place their leaves on the street. Because snow was plowed today, they had complaint calls that their leaves were plowed up. The leaves belong on the treelawn, and the crews will get to them as soon as they can. Stressed again, put the leaves on the treelawn, not in the street.

**REQUESTS:**

Request for a liquor permit transfer at Rockne's (internal corporate transfer of number). **MOTION** by Murphy, second by C.Gallagher for a position of no objection. **VOTE RESULTED:** *No Objection:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, C.Gallagher. Abstain: Van Kirk. No: None. **(NO OBJECTION)**

Request authorization to advertise for bids for the full maintenance service program (refrigeration, heating, ventilating and air conditioning) at the John M. Coyne Recreation Center. The current agreement expires Dec. 10, 2013. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by K.Gallagher to advertise for bids. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Advise for Bids:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. **(APPROVED)**

Request for bid approval for the restroom renovations at the Recreation Center. The Finance Committee has recommended that Council defer to the next meeting to get more information on where the disparity was, as five bids were substantially over the architect's estimate. **MOTION** by Murphy, second by Van Kirk to defer to the next meeting. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Defer to Next Mtg.:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. **(DEFERRED)**

Request for authorization to purchase a fire pumper/truck. The Finance Committee has recommended that Council defer to the next meeting. The Committee ran out of time and had no chance to discuss possible financing options. She asked Dir. Enovitch to see if he can get some information to Council. **MOTION** by

Van Kirk, second by K.Gallagher to defer to the next meeting. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Defer to Next Mtg.:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. **(DEFERRED)**

**LEGISLATION:**

**RESOLUTION 2013-9:** Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the District Board of Health of Cuyahoga County for Health Services for the year 2014. The total is \$43,782. This year's cost was \$42,889. It's a minor increase, and a very good deal the city has with the County. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by K.Gallagher to suspend the rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Suspend the Rules:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. *Adopt:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

Pres. Pucci asked if everyone was fine with moving forward with a work session for the I-71 matter. She will have Mary-Jo e-mail tomorrow with possible dates and times.

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Murphy to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Adjourn:* Yes: K.Gallagher, Murphy, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, C.Gallagher. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

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Asst. Clerk of Council

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President of Council