

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

December 11, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Present: Ron Van Kirk
Tony DeMarco
Debbie Tomusko
Kathy Pucci
Mary Balbier
Kevin Tanski
Barb Paulitzky

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Tanski, second by Paulitzky to approve the minutes of Nov. 27, 2017. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To approve:* Yes: Van Kirk, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky. No: None. **(APPROVED)**

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Gallagher apologized to City Council, as we kept the Citizen of the Year a surprise, so the name wasn't on the Agenda. Her secretary Jill Ludwig organized it. She called up to the podium and presented a Mayor's Proclamation to Mike Bunaisky for his work with Christ's Cupboard. He helps Brooklyn residents and others in need, with food, transportation needs, etc. He was nominated by several people. Mr. Bunaisky thanked everyone for this surprise, saying he picks up food seven days a week, drops off to shelters, and keeps supplies on hand to hand out to families (food, furniture...), all with donations. They are looking for a space for storage because they've outgrown the church space. Also thanked all the volunteers who help him.

Mayor Gallagher presented a Mayor's Proclamation to Cindy Simko as Employee of the Year. Cindy is a full-time employee in the Finance Dept., and assisting in other departments, since 1.1.13. She was nominated by multiple directors. She thanked her for being an asset to the city and the administration.

Mayor Gallagher presented a Mayor's Proclamation to the 5th and 6th grade St. Thomas More football team, for being CYO champions. The team members present, and their coach, accepted Proclamations.

PUBLIC SESSION:

None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:

Board of Zoning Appeals (Commissioner Kulcsar): The Board meeting scheduled for Dec. 22nd is cancelled, with no applications received. The next scheduled mtg. is Jan 18th at 6 p.m. in the conference room, open to the public.

Planning Commission (Councilman DeMarco): The Commission met Dec. 7th at 6 p.m. and approved a request from Labella Assoc. for amendment to plans approved at 9/7/17 Planning mtg. for new truck entrance drive and deletion of additional pkg. area in front of 9500 Brookpark Rd.

School Board Liaison (Councilwoman Paulitzky): Dec. 16th will have several concerts, starting at 12:30 and going to 7 p.m.; with various fundraisers going on (bake sale, 50/50 raffle, basket raffle). Please support the children and listen to their music.

Finance Committee (Councilman Van Kirk): The Comm. met at 6:30 and recommended for adoption: Ord. 2017-78, Authorize inter-fund transfers and advances during 2017; Ord. 2017-79, Annual Appropriations for 2018 (reviewed some changes, with total proposed 2018 for all funds is \$25,025,223, \$1.5M of that for road construction for 2018); Ord. 2017-86 (1st reading), Establishing a non-resident fee for key fob cards for use with the MySeniorCenter system at the Brooklyn Senior Center (\$12 annual charge for non-residents which includes mailing of the Chit Chat).

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Tony DeMarco: Ord. 2017-79 for the budget will be voted on tonight. He's made it clear from the start of discussions he won't support a budget with services being reduced to residents. He said the same thing last year, that there should be shared sacrifice, which didn't happen again. –Thanked Dir. Schaeffer and his staff for compiling all the provided data and responses to questions. Urged Council not to approve the budget as currently constructed. There's time to pass one that *meets* current and future needs of residents. –Announced he is resigning as elected Councilperson. Humbled and honored to represent the residents for past eight years. He's met many residents who actively participate to make Brooklyn a better place, though too many to list. There's a small number putting their self interests and ambitions ahead of what's best. He's shed light as situations arose. He has and will provide facts and be truthful with all, no matter how blunt. –Wished residents the best that life offers; and further wished everyone a merry Christmas.

Debbie Tomusko: Thanked Wally (Mr. Parker) for the tradition of Santa Claus for years. As a point, not many communities can do that (small enough, ability to do that in the entire community). Last mtg. she said to hang onto what's good and special about Brooklyn, and this is an example. Brooklyn is special and small, and it's okay. As we work toward economic development, don't lose what makes us special as a city. –Purchase of land at corner and Tiedeman. Had questions and comments, but will hold. She understood Council was still voting on it, but the Sun News and PD said it's a done deal; a quote from Econ. Dev. Dir. said we're moving forward with it. So no point in questions. It would be a nice illusion to think Council has input to what happens in the city, but it went away. –Found out that at the last mtg. while speaking that another Councilmember wrote a note to another that she didn't win and they don't have to listen to her anymore. Next mtg. is her last, she will save to then to make more comments. –Surprised by Councilman DeMarco. Thanked him for his service, as a class act, working tirelessly for the betterment of the city, with his time and talent, going against forces in power, and for the citizens of Brooklyn and the city. Wherever he goes, that community will benefit from him. Personally thanked him.

Kathy Pucci: Congratulated Mr. Bunaisky on his award as Citizen of the Year, for his hard work and people that he helps. It's well deserved and she appreciates what he does. –Congratulated Cindy Simko on her award; she's a hard worker and it's well deserved. –Congratulated the St. Thomas More football team on their championship (and coaches and parents). –The recount was completed on the school levy, renewal and small addition; it's unfortunate it lost by two votes. It's a perfect example of why every single vote counts. The Board and Superintendent will decide their next course of action. –Regarding permanent appropriations to be adopted for next year, an ambulance is not included because we'll see which specific one is best suited for the city, then it will be added in. –Thanked Mr. Parker for all he does for Santa's visit. It's a highlight for the kids, and it brings back a lot of memories. It's a great thing. He's been doing it for 50 years, and thanked him again for his dedication. –The Safety Comm. will tour the Parma Regional Dispatch Center Wed. morning, and meet Chief Mielke there. She asked him to send a status of where we are, as we had some issues working through, and if there's any progress resolving those. –Thanked Mr. DeMarco for his service. He was an independent thinker, and was consistent in putting residents first and *that they deserve* the best we can offer. He will be missed.

Mary Balbier: Thanked St. Thomas More football team. They have dedicated parents, coaches, and always seem to win. –Thanked Mr. Bunaisky and his wife, who she's known for over 30 years in various capacities. He is a good and kind man in all he does. –Congratulated Cindy Simko, she's very efficient and is spoken of highly. –About purchase of land, a couple asked if we did feasibility study, what is it good for;

why are we becoming real estate people; and a few more. Concerns are it was in the paper already. She things we should be cautious. –Will miss Mr. DeMarco. She admires all the work he did for St. Rocco's. She wishes him happiness, a lot of children and success.

Kevin Tanski: Congratulated Mike Bunaisky, Cindy Simko and the CYO football team. –Thanked Mr. DeMarco for his service on Council and wished him well.

Barb Paulitzky: Congratulated Mike Bunaisky, Cindy Simko, and the football team. –Cleveland Baptist Church has presented Christmas in Brooklyn the past four years for our residents; the 2017 program is free of charge at the Church on Dec. 16th and 17th at 6 p.m. More information at 216-671-2822. –Thanked all city employees for their dedication to the residents of Brooklyn, and making Council's job easier in addressing concerns. Mentioned various programs through the year, and asked residents to take a moment to thank them. Wished them all a blessed Christmas. –Wished Mr. DeMarco well in the future, and that his new place of residence as happy to him as Brooklyn has been.

Ron Van Kirk: Informed residents that the Dec. 26th Council mtg. is moved to Dec. 18th, due to the Christmas holiday. –Congratulated Mr. Bunaisky (and keep up what he's doing for the community), Cindy Simko, and the CYO football team. –Ordinances for property on Memphis and Tiedeman, once they are read on first reading it is public information, and not uncommon for media to call with questions. It's not a done deal, it's up for third reading and adoption at the next mtg., where questions can be asked, or Council can vote down if they choose. –Asked Mary-Jo to send a public notice for the Dispatch Center visit/mtg. as if there's a quorum it needs noticed. Councilwoman Pucci said she checked with Dir. Butler. Dir. Butler replied that Councilmembers who attend 'demonstrations' where no deliberations take place aren't at official mtgs. Cautioned to not speak among themselves about the subject matter; but being shown and asking questions is okay, and not an official mtg. under the Open Meetings Act, so doesn't have to be noticed. –Wished Mr. DeMarco the best of luck and thanked him for his service and wished him well *in* future endeavors.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gallagher: She missed the article Councilwoman Tomusko brought up because her sister had been in ICU for two weeks. She just this moment read the article and the reporter makes it sound like Council is passing them. It wasn't the Econ. Dev. Dir., it was the reporter; but it's obviously still pending on the agenda. Because it was on our agendas, reporters contact the administration. Gave an example of an article that read her sister, who was in the ICU, sentenced someone to prison (while she was in ICU). The reporters, in general, don't necessarily always report accurate information; so in reading take things with a grain of salt. Councilwoman Tomusko said the article quoted Dir. Udris. Mayor Gallagher said he was not quoted as saying it was passed. Again cautioned about things you read. There were discussions in executive sessions before it was brought to the Agenda, and wouldn't have come to Council if there wasn't enough support for it. –Welcomed Inogen again, who had a grand opening luncheon with their California executives. The business is doing so great here they are talking of moving more people than originally planned on. They are very happy with their space at American Greetings. We hope they create more opportunities for jobs, income tax, and to help the city out as a whole.

DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Rec Mgr. McGinty: There is an Ugly Christmas Sweater public Skate Friday, Dec. 15th, 8-9:15 p.m. During winter break there will be Recreation Center Sunday (12/26 and 1/2) with open skate, snacks, then swimming; cost is \$10 and includes a future ticket to Brooklyn basketball home game. –Registration is going on for Friday night basketball for grades 1-6, \$35 for residents.

Finance Dir. Schaeffer: Thanked Council for the 2018 permanent appropriations, which was started in May 2017; he's hopeful for a similar process in 2018 and beyond. Gave Council a sample Ord. from 2009 which authorized capital items incorporated in the 2018 appropriations; he'd like to do a similar packet for 2018, which totals \$2,243,702. If anyone has questions contact him. –Change #2 to 2017 appropriations will be in Council packets for the 12.18.17 mtg, and he requests emergency passage. This allows us to have our

Certificate of Estimated Resources in balance and file with the Fiscal Officer and be in compliance. Contact him with questions. –Also provided most recent collections from RITA, with the \$887,000 for advanced distribution. He'll know reconciliation distribution on 12.14 and then provide Council with a 2017 total gross collections by RITA at the 12.18 mtg. –The final payment was made for Eclipse and that closes the project.

Bldg. Comm. Kulcsar: With holidays and the outdoor lighting contest coming, he has tips on safety on plugging many lights and hanging them on the house in the snow. Plug into GFCI receptacle (with a test/reset button); cords and lights should be UL listed for outdoor use (some are only for inside use); plug connections should be off the ground a bit and out of snow (moisture could cause problems); check cords for overheating (touch not getting super hot); make sure they are off before going to sleep; and be careful on ladders.

Councilwoman Tomusko commented on her comment about Cleveland.com and Sun News saying Tiedeman was a done deal, and was corrected by the Mayor that she had the article. She just pulled up the article and the opening paragraph stated Econ. Dev. Dir. Udris said the city is spending \$844,000 to purchase properties... So she said it quotes our director as saying is done, we are purchasing, it's a done deal. She wanted to correct that. –Mayor Gallagher replied that there are no quotations, which is her point; anyone can write anything. The whole point of her sister's article was there were quotes from the courtroom, and she was not even present.

REQUESTS:

Request from Service Dir. Verba to request authorization to enter an agreement with Smith and Oby Service Co, on renewal contract for full maintenance program, heating, ventilation, air conditioning systems at City Hall, Senior Center, Service Garage, Fire Dept., Animal Shelter, Historical Society to being 1.1.18 to 12.31.18 for contract cost of \$47,750. (same company and cost as last year). **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to authorize renewal agreement. **VOTE RESULTED: To approve:** Yes: Van Kirk, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky. No: None. **(APPROVED)**

LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE 2017-78, Authorizing inter-fund transfers and advances during 2017. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to adopt. **VOTE RESULTED: To adopt:** Yes: Van Kirk, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2017-79, Annual appropriations for 2018. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to adopt. **VOTE RESULTED: To adopt:** Yes: Van Kirk, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky. No: DeMarco. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2017-81, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Midwest Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses for the purchase of certain real property known as 4346 Tiedeman Rd. PP#432-03-001, -007, -008. **(SECOND READING)**

ORDINANCE 2017-82, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Eli A. Mina for the purchase of certain real property known as 10139 Memphis Ave. PP#432-03-002. **(SECOND READING)**

ORDINANCE 2017-83, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Allyson Lawry for the purchase of certain real property known as 4302 Tiedeman Rd. PP#432-03-003. **(SECOND READING)**

ORDINANCE 2017-84, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Lottie Taylor-Blake for the purchase of certain real property known as 10100 Manilla Ave. PP#432-03-004, -005, -006. **(SECOND READING)**

ORDINANCE 2017-86, Establishing a non-resident fee for key fob cards for use with the MySeniorCenter System at the Brooklyn Senior Center. **(FIRST READING)**

Pres. Van Kirk said there will be an executive session for a labor negotiations update.

MOTION by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of labor negotiations with the Mayor, Finance and Law Directors. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To adjourn to executive session:* Yes: Van Kirk, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky. No: None. **(ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

Reconvened.

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Paulitzky to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adjourn:* Yes: Van Kirk, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci, Balbier, Paulitzky. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Minutes approved: 1.22.18