

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

March 26, 2018

7:10 p.m.

Present: Kevin Tanski
Barb Paulitzky
Ron Van Kirk
Meg Ryan Shockey
Andy Celcherts
Kathy Pucci
Mary Balbier

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Prayer was offered by the Rev. Peter Folger, Co-Pastor Cleveland Baptist Church.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

Mayor Gallagher presented a Mayor's Proclamation: To Honor and Recognize Brooklyn Middle School Girls 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team on being PAC Champions, to the team and coaches on behalf of herself, the City Council and the entire city.

Pres. Van Kirk announced that on Fri., March 30th city offices are closed in observance of Good Friday; there will be no special garbage collection that day.

PUBLIC SESSION:

None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:

Public Safety & Environmental Comm: (Councilman Van Kirk): The Comm. met after the last Council meeting and discussed: -the power outage on Tiedeman as the result of a vehicle taking out a power box and the resulting non-working traffic lights. The Chief had talked about generators and items for backup when it happens. All the intersections that have lights at them will have some sort of power backup or a foldable stop sign to use. The Comm. recommended to do something such as this, and the Chief is gathering information, and as the amount becomes available there will be discussions at Finance and Council mtgs. -Discussed animal trapping, with different options to handle the nuisance animals in the city, possibly partnering with another city, limited in-house trapping, or to partner with a private company (which was done in the past). The discussion will continue and meet again on it. -Discussed potential new police station and other municipal services. It was agreed another needs assessment would be done (the previous ones from 2011 and 2015 were shared by Sgt. Knapp), with legislation to do it in the near future. -Discussed Regional Dispatch Center in Parma, about issues being worked through, and also talked about by the Mayor at Finance mtg. about other potential issues. They talked about increasing wages for dispatchers (the biggest problem is retaining them). Our contract is past due, and been pushed further as we go through discussions. When we started we paid \$212,000/yr, went to \$236,000/yr, and various iterations of additions would shift the cost breakdown, to be based solely on volume. Brooklyn's responsibility could end up between \$470,000-\$720,000/yr for the dispatch service. We have shopped around to another potential dispatch center, and others; so it is being looked into. The Mayor should have the proposal sometime tonight, and everyone will be kept updated, before any agreement is signed.

Recreation Board (Councilman Tanski): There are new public skating themes on Fridays from 8-9:15 p.m. April 13 is Cleveland Sport Skate. -Summer youth baseball registration began and will go through March 31st, starting late May/early June. Request more information from jobanion@brooklynohio.gov. -Camp

Brooklyn is Mon-Fri 8a-2:45 p.m., dates will be announced. Age groups are: 5-6 yrs, 7-8 yrs, 9-10 yrs, and 11-12. Must be five years old to participate. More information and costs, contact daycamp@brooklynohio.gov. The next Rec Bd. mtg. is April 16th at 7 p.m.

Bd. of Zoning Appeals and Community Reinvestment Area (Dir. Kulcsar): The Bd. met March 15th for: approved the following requests from T. O'Neil, representing Menard, Inc. for Menards Home Imp. Store at 7700 Brookpark Rd.: 8-ft variance to maximum accessory structure height of 20-ft; an 8-ft variance to maximum fence height of 6-ft; 96 space variance to minimum of one pkg. space for each 400 sq. ft. of floor area; 120 sq. ft. variance to maximum of 2 sq. ft. of signage on each one lineal foot of bldg. frontage; a 64-ft variance to maximum freestanding sign height of 16 feet; one additional sign variance to maximum of one freestanding sign per lot; 90 sq. ft. variance to 60 sq. ft. maximum area of single pole sign; a 340 sq. ft. variance to 60 sq. ft. maximum sign area for single pole sign. Approved requests from A. Clark of 10407 Biddulph Rd. for one foot variance to maximum height of fence in front yard, and for a 13-ft. variance to maximum distance from front of bldg. for a fence. The next Bd. mtg. is April 19th at 6 p.m. in the conference room. All are welcome. -The Community Reinvestment Housing Council met today at 5:30 in the conference room. The Bd. assembled and of the 13 eligible tax abatements, seven were received and approved. They go to the County and are eligible for five years of tax abatement for the additional improvements made to their properties.

School Bd. Liaison (Councilwoman Paulitzky): Said several Brooklyn Polaris students are heading to state competition, having placed in district/regional competition, and wishes them all good luck. -The Superintendent made recommendations to the School Bd.: restructure Elementary and Middle School; abolish two administrative positions and two administrative contracts, effective 8/31/18; recommend one principal and one asst. principal for grades pre-K thru 7. All Bd. members voted in favor of the proposal. She will inform as additional information becomes available. -Teachers are conducting school safety drills with different levels; high school safety forum held March 22nd - with plans to stay vigilant, communication is critical, student hotline available for safety and bullying issues (1-800-listen to me) or a Stay Safe Speak Up icon on the school's website home page. -Spring combined band concert was March 22nd (5-12 grade chorus and bands), and was fantastic. The students are lucky to have their band teachers. -The Jazz Band is at the Taste of Brooklyn April 28th.

Planning Commission (Councilman Van Kirk): The Comm. had a special meeting March 15th to hear requests: approved A. Adams for site approval for temporary sales office for Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living facility at Idlewood Dr. The next mtg. is April 5th at 6 p.m. in the conference to hear requests: from M.Martin for building additional, sign package and parking lot alteration at McDonald's at 4738 Ridge; from Suresight for additional three antennas on existing cell tower for 10904 Brookpark; from Brilliant Sign Co. for wall mounted LED channel letter sign for nail supply store at 6606 Biddulph; from Cicogna Electric and Sign Co. for two additional identification signs on a storefront for Marc's at 7359 Northcliff; from J.Cliff for two wall signs, one wall mounted LED channel letter sign, and one business identification at 4315 Ridge.

Sustainability Advisory Committee (Councilman Tanski): The Comm. will meet March 28th at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall to discuss Ord. 2018-17 (authorize Mayor enter into ground lease with Enerlogics Solar, LLC for development, design, installation and operation of a solar powered electric generation facility on a portion of land located at 9400 Memphis.)

Finance Committee (Councilman Van Kirk): The Comm. met and recommended: Ord. 2018-27 (adoption), to install new e-mail system upgrade to the city's IT/computer system from Bailey's Comm. for \$37,587.50; Ord. 2018-31 (request suspension/adoption), Contract with Software Solutions for maintenance and support of VIP system in the city (\$20,800); Ord. 2018-36 (request suspension/adoption), to enter into a contract with a new gas supplier for natural gas for all city buildings (competitively shopped at a historic low, three year contract through May 2021, rate of 3.34 cents/mcf, with Interstate Gas Supply); Ord. 2018-37 (1st reading), ratification of updated statement of investment policy (current policy from 1999); Ord. 2018-38 (1st reading), amends Code sections to be in conformance with newly updated state municipal income tax legislation (takes away tax collection rights from the city and turn over to the state); Ord. 2018-39 (1st reading), amends Ex. A for compensation for non-bargaining units (read proposed changes, mostly updating the minimum wages, and updated a couple ranges).

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Kevin Tanski: Congratulated the 7th grade basketball team on their perfect season and wished them good luck next year.

Barb Paulitzky: Wished everyone a blessed Passover and Easter season, and warm weather to go with it.

Meg Ryan Shockey: On cleveland.com saw BHS students participated in a national walkout on March 14th (in response to Parkland, FL school shooting), which that right is a piece of American Democracy, and not too young to be involved or speak for what they believe is right. Encourages them to stay involved. –Feels it's important to visit each department and understand how they run, which will help in budget discussions. Last week toured the Service Dept. with Dir. Verba and Foremen Marty and Tom, and saw day to day aspects of some jobs. Learned our recycling numbers have gone down, with numerous residents not recycling. www.cuyahogarecycles.org has detailed information on curbside and non-curbside recycling, and what to dispose of. –Also last week she and Councilman Celcherts visited the Fire Station for three hours for a ride along effort to learn the roles of firefighters and paramedics. They shadowed, listened and asked questions. Our Fire Dept. is a great asset for our community. Residents can meet firefighters and tour the facilities at an open house each fall (this year Oct. 13th). –Saturday she and Councilman Celcherts attended a new Council training with the Ohio Municipal League, with presentations on many subjects. It was informative. Learned that not all cities and villages are blessed with a great Law Dir. as Brooklyn's Dir. Butler is. –Continues to reach out to residents for thoughts and questions on Brooklyn, using coffee chats. Wed., April 18th (her 100th day in office) she will be at Dunkin' Donuts on Ridge from 7:15-8:15; she invites residents to stop in.

Andy Celcherts: Congratulated ladies' basketball team. –Taste of Brooklyn on Sat., April 28th from 7-10 p.m. at Copperstone; money made from event goes to scholarships. Many Brooklyn food vendors will be there. Scholarship applications being accepted now, completed/postmarked by April 13th. Two scholarships available: one to graduating resident Brooklyn senior who will attend full-time recognized college/university in fall; one to a high school senior (Brooklyn or Old Brooklyn resident) who will attend full-time recognized college/university in fall.

Kathy Pucci: Congratulated 7th grade girls' basketball team, coaches and parents; everyone's proud of their efforts and accomplishment. –Expanded on recycling issue, that we've been spot checking for compliance, with warning letters going to those not compliant. Our recycling numbers are down (2017 and first of 2018). Recycling saves money on tipping fees we pay to Cleveland. Some residents upset they got the letter, but the intent isn't to be punitive, it's to educate then make sure they're adhering to regulations. It's not a criminal offense, it's civil. Residents with questions/concerns after getting a letter can speak to Dir. Verba. It's an extreme with residents being vigilant (but might miss something) or blatantly ignoring regulations. Again, this is to educate and ensure residents adhere to this. –Asked Dir. Kulcsar to send Council the formalized report from the Comm. Reinvestment Housing Council when it's complete. –Wished a happy and joyous Easter to those who celebrate.

Mary Albier: Commented on the recent school shootings and violence, and the politics of gun control and Second Amendment rights to own and carry. Everyone agrees something has to be done, with no action being taken by adult politicians. It's heartening young people in country are taking matters into their own hands, with protest marches across the country this weekend. No child should be afraid for their safety at school. Tens of thousands protested in Washington, with over 20,000 in downtown Cleveland on Saturday. She congratulates the young people for taking the situation into their own hands. –Congratulated the 7th grade girls' basketball team. A small school as Brooklyn shines in sports, music, theater, education, and is something to be proud of. Without parents and good teachers none of this can happen. –Wished residents a happy and joyous Easter, the holiest Christian holiday. Many churches in our city have services, with something to fit everyone.

Ron Van Kirk: Thanked the Administration, Mgr. McGinty and all who helped with last week's Easter egg hunt. His wife and son went, and his son talked about it all week. Kudos to the Recreation Center, it was packed and a lot of fun. –Wished all a happy Easter, and encouraged everyone to attend a church of their faith. –Recycling comes down to a money issue; it costs us money to dump, and we get paid a little bit for recycling. The less in our garbage bin, it saves the city money; which means less taxpayer dollars spent. He

received some emails from upset residents. As said, the city isn't trying to be nasty, but rather good stewards of your tax money. Dir. Verba will be happy to talk to anyone. –About the school shootings, he thanks our school resource officer in Brooklyn for what he does in the city. At another school shooting in Maryland last week, the resource officer stopped the situation from escalating rapidly. He expects nothing less from Brooklyn's school resource officer. Hopefully the mistakes coming out from the Florida incident will be corrected with current laws, and stop future shootings.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gallagher: Thanked the families and children that came to Easter egg hunt; there were over 95 kids that participated. This Brooklyn tradition has gone on well over 50 years. –Congratulated all students awarded at the winter sports banquet; she attended and handed out some awards. Athletic Dir. Kelber is doing a good job, and all the coaches and parents are helpful in making their kids successful at the school. –Thanked residents who came to Terraces at Northridge for a meeting last week. A great dialogue with residents asking questions and talking about issues. She has another mtg. this Wed. at 6:30 at the Westbrook Apts.; come and join the conversation. –There is a groundbreaking for the solar farm April 4th at 2 p.m. if interested in coming. –The week of April 9th is Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Thanks all dispatchers for the work they do, it's a difficult job that not many can handle. –Congratulations and thank you to the Heinle family of the Sausage Shoppe; they are closing this week after 80 years in business. They've been a valuable, nearby part of Brooklyn's community, and part of our Chamber since 2007, participating in numerous events. Thanks for all they've done for the city. –Wished everyone a nice Easter holiday with their families.

DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Finance Dir. Schaeffer: Ord. 2018-37, the investment policy, is an initiative to bring the city's investment policy in line with the ORC, and take advantage of increasing interest rates. The policy would bring the city in line with current investment options. –Ord. 2018-38 (changes in city's tax code), the changes are associated with centralized collection of net profit taxes. –He e-mailed Council on the 15th over viewing some initiatives for the Finance Dept. and upcoming legislation. It's looking ahead to April, May and June with legislation, and meeting in May (like last year) to begin the City Council budget work sessions associated for the 2019 appropriations. Council will see initial Capital requests in 2019, and he'll be working on directors to start compiling those, and some known changes and factors in those 2019 appropriations.

Service Dir. Verba: Brooklyn's recycle totals last year dropped by 160 tons, and Jan-Feb 2018 we've seen a decline of 35 tons. In recycling industry, when cities change from bins to an automated system the numbers should increase by 50%. That's drastic, but our numbers shouldn't be declining. We get charged \$42.29 for every ton of trash not recycled. In 2017 our fees were \$125,595.30. Brooklyn was the first city in Cuyahoga County in 1990 to make recycling mandatory. With this past year's Ordinance changes the Service Dept. will start enforcing recycling in 2018. They started monitoring recycling content last week. A worker on light duty rides with the automated driver. If no recycle container is out he looks into the trash for any recycle material; if he spots recycling in it, the resident received a warning letter. Even if one item was found on Mon. or Tues, the resident received a letter. Even if recycling container isn't out each week, there should be no recycling in the trash container. After consideration, the worker will only warn residents with several items in the container (it's understandable something could be thrown away). Mon. and Tues. warnings will be dismissed. Common items found were cardboard boxes, junk mail and plastics. For a complete list of materials – visit the city's website at www.brooklynohio.gov and www.cuyahogarecycles.org. –The city will begin picking up compost on April 2nd. Compost must be placed in a container or brown bag; it will not be taken in plastic bags. –The Service Dept. is closed Fri., March 30th, so no special pickups. –For questions, call his office at 216-635-4219, or the dispatcher at 216-635-4232. –The City was once again awarded Tree City USA.

Councilwoman Pucci thought last year we were told we couldn't use the brown bags for compost. Dir. Verba said we haven't gotten a definitive word from Kurtz Bros., so we will still accept them. But eventually we want everyone to put their compost in a garbage can. Councilwoman Pucci said residents should plan that we won't accept the brown bags.

LEGISLATION:

ORD. 2018-17, Authorize the Mayor to enter into a ground lease with Enerlogics Solar, LLC for the development, design, installation, and operation of a solar powered electric generation facility on a portion of land located at 9400 Memphis Ave. **(IN ABEYANCE)**

ORD. 2018-27, Authorizing the service, configuration, installation of e-mail system upgrade to the City of Brooklyn's IT computer system with Bailey Communications in the amount of \$37,587.50. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to adopt. **VOTE RESULTED: To adopt:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORD. 2018-31, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Software Solutions (SSI) to provide software, maintenance and support of the Visual Intelligence Software System for the City of Brooklyn for the period of 4/1/18 to 3/31/19. **MOTION** by Celcherts, second by Tanski to suspend the rules. **VOTE RESULTED: To suspend the rules:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **To adopt:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORD. 2018-33, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement for the sale and purchase of vacant City of Brooklyn Land Bank property on Shady Lane (PP#433-11-099) for \$100 and other good and valuable consideration. **(SECOND READING)**

ORD. 2018-34, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Job Retention and Creation Grant Agreement with Hopebridge, LLC. **(SECOND READING)**

ORD. 2018-36, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract/agreement with IGS (Interstate Gas Supply) as supplier of natural gas for city buildings. Needs amended to put IGS in. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to amend by adding IGS, three year term, 3.340 rate and date where needed. **VOTE RESULTED: To amend:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to suspend the rules. **VOTE RESULTED: To suspend the rules:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **To adopt:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADOPTED, as amended)**

ORD. 2018-37, To ratify the City of Brooklyn's Updated Statement of Investment Policy. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Ryan Shockey to amend by striking the double word 'govern' in first Whereas. **VOTE RESULTED: To amend:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(AMENDED, FIRST READING)**

ORD. 2018-38, Amending Sections 182.03 and 182.05 and enacting Section 182.051 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Brooklyn, to bring the Code into conformance with recently updated State Municipal Income Tax Legislation. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Ryan Shockey to amend 'Lakewood' with 'Brooklyn' in the 6th Whereas. **VOTE RESULTED: To amend:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(AMENDED, FIRST READING)**

ORD. 2018-39, Amending Ex. A of Ord. 2016-88, 'Providing for the compensation for the part-time, full-time and administrative employees (non-bargaining agreement) of the City of Brooklyn, Ohio. **(FIRST READING)**

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