

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

I. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

1. REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024.
2. REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2024.

IV. DISCUSSION:

1. DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL- PLATTEN INDUSTRIES INC.
14500 BROOKPARK RD, BROOK PARK, OH 44135,
C NEW 6958884 POSTMARK DATE: 1/18/2025. **Moved from the Caucus
Prior meeting held on January 7, 2025.** -PER COUNCIL PRESIDENT
SALVATORE.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE- COUNCILMAN SCOTT

1. AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF
BROOK PARK, STATE OF OHIO, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,
2025. **Moved from the Caucus Prior meeting held on January 7, 2025.**

VI. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE- COUNCILMAN SCOTT

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 351.03 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED
ORDINANCES ENTITLED ' PROHIBITED STANDING OR PARKING PLACES,' AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Dufour.

VII. SAFETY COMMITTEE- COUNCILMAN TROYER

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 333.07 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED
ORDINANCES ENTITLED "STREET RACING" AND DECLARING
AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Dufour.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, OHIO
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Salvatore at 7:00 p.m., the clerk called the roll and the following Members of Council answered:

TROYER, ROBERTS, DUFOUR, POINDEXTER, MENCINI, McCORKLE, SCOTT

Also in attendance were Mayor Orcutt, Law Director Horvath, Finance Director McGann, Service Director Beyer, Recreation Director Wetmore, City Engineer Piatak, Economic Development Commissioner Marnacheck, Tax Director Thunberg, Fire Chief Higgins and Police Chief Powers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

1. Regular Caucus meeting minutes held on November 12, 2024.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Dufour, to approve as printed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Dufour, Poindexter, Roberts, Scott, McCorkle

NAYS: Troyer

2. Regular Caucus meeting minutes held on December 10, 2024.

Motion by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. McCorkle, to approve as printed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, McCorkle, Scott, Roberts, Dufour, Poindexter

NAYS: Troyer.

DISCUSSION:

1. DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL - PLATTEN INDUSTRIES, INC. 14500 BROOKPARK ROAD, BROOK PARK, OH 44135. C NEW 6958884. **Postmark Date: 01/07/25.**

Madam Horvath thanked Council for the extra week to do due diligence on this issue. Did speak with the gentleman applying for this license and it was indicated to open a restaurant, not an adult business. The other item that needed to be confirmed was with Building Commissioner Monaco if someone wanted to open an adult business at that location. Would it be necessary to go to the Zoning Board for a conditional use permit; both Building Commissioner Monaco and I agreed that would be the proper way to proceed. See no problem with allowing this person to have this liquor license, doesn't need a court hearing from the liquor department.

Mr. Mencini asked Madam Horvath if this would become an adult business would have to come before the Planning Commission, also?

Madam Horvath responded my understanding speaking with Mr. Monaco, the answer would be yes.

Mr. Mencini stated need to stay on top of this, would have liked a representative appear before Council.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Poindexter asked Madam Horvath if this person misrepresents himself can the liquor permit be revoked?

Madam Horvath responded the current issue is for the issuance of the liquor license. If found out later this person has felonies or lied to the liquor control board the city would be able to do something.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Poindexter, discussed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Poindexter, Dufour, Roberts, Scott, McCorkle, Mencini
NAYS: Unanimous.

Mr. Poindexter stated item numbers five (5) and six (6) should be placed under discussion, not in committee.

Mr. Salvatore responded I will run the committees.

2. AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK, STATE OF OHIO, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025.

Mayor Orcutt stated the appropriations have increased in a few areas: Health Care prices have increased and employees are receiving a raise of three and one-quarter percent (3 1/4%). Also, with the Actual/Estimated work sheet it is shown that revenues have increased, as well. Commended Finance and Tax Departments for all their hard work put into the physically conservative budget.

Motion by Mr. Troyer, supported by Mr. Roberts, for a five-minute recess to make copies of financial documents.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Troyer, Roberts, Scott, Dufour, Poindexter, Mencini, McCorkle
NAYS: Unanimous.

Motion by Mr. Scott, supported by Mr. Roberts, to go back to regular order of business.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Scott, Roberts, Troyer, Dufour, Poindexter, Mencini, McCorkle
NAYS: Unanimous.

Mayor Orcutt went through Exhibit A - 2025 Capital Budget as follows: Fund 110 - Council - laptops - \$10,000.00; Miscellaneous - \$5,000.00; Fund 210 - Mayor's Court - Miscellaneous (Filing Cabinets) - \$5,000.00; Fund 310 - General Bond Retirement - \$753,404.75 is for debt services that includes the Holland Road Reconstruction Project; Fund 341 - Recreation Center - \$105,000.00 - Cleaning Cart - \$10,000.00; Workout Equipment - \$30,000.00; Spin Class Equipment - \$30,000.00; Concession Area Furniture - \$20,000.00; Sound System upgrade -

Discussion: cont.

\$15,000.00. When the tornado came through in the third quarter all departments were told to hold off on spending so a few items in this budget may be redundant. Fund 342 - Parks & Playgrounds - \$610,320.24 - Water Park features - \$15,000.00; Water Park concrete - \$10,000.00 for pipe replacement; Park Fencing for American Legion and Plant Lane fields - \$100,000.00; Carpenter Park concrete/fencing (north side) - \$15,000.00; Kennedy Park Memorial parking lot and additional parking - \$125,230.00; and Water Park parking lot - \$242,090.23.

Discussion - Questions - page one (1).

Mr. Poindexter stated to Mayor Orcutt earlier there was discussion of adding an outdoor swimming pool at the water park? Any idea as to the cost and if not in this budget maybe in next year's budget.

Mayor Orcutt responded that is part of the municipal campus master plan that is almost ready to be put forward to the Planning Commission. Also, the natatorium green roofs are leaking so in that (master plan) project upgrades will be needed to the outside concrete. To install an outdoor pool will have to be sized with the correct boiler; the existing outdoor boiler located in the mechanical room is well-overdue for an upgrade. Think it's a great idea but not in the budget right now still in the planning stages for approval. Other items have to be discussed with recreation staff before putting dollars for a pool but the intent is to move forward with that idea.

Mr. Poindexter appreciate having the budget to Council so early and maybe the outdoor pool could be 'earmarked' for the next budget.

Mayor Orcutt commented the finance director and I wanted to get to Council in November but the tornado reports to Emergency Management Association (EMA) and State of Ohio inundated the both of us; as well with meetings with the Cleveland Browns three or four times a week.

Mr. Mencini stated looking at the bonds mature dates and concur with Mr. Poindexter getting the budget early allowing Council to prepare. With Parks & Playgrounds concur with the many items listed above. The one item is with the (outdoor) boiler motor is probably something that needs to be looked at.

Mayor Orcutt responded Council does a good job with previous budgets and some items have life expectancies of 20 to 25 years and this capital budget shows the original boiler replacement at the building department; from 1960 and well over the life expectancy.

Mr. Mencini stated when doing this want those items to last for 20 to 25 years, not four (4) or five (5) years.

Discussion - Questions - page one (1) cont.

Mr. Troyer stated with the water park can't let it go six (6) or seven (7) years spent monies for inspection of everything that was wrong with the water park.

Mayor Orcutt responded good question to bring up and think that was a swing and miss unfortunately, no bad intent with the former administration. Service Director Beyer has found is that is one (1) huge drain system underneath and ties into a sump (pump). When that was installed the six-inch (6") pipe that transfers the water discharge and circulating that water it's been found that area wasn't glued.

Mr. Troyer stated with the Plant Lane vinyl fencing?

Mayor Orcutt responded that is the wooden easterly side of the fence.

Mr. Troyer clarified at the back of the residents' homes?

Mayor Orcutt concurred and stated after the tornado service crews had to patch parts of that fence, which was torn out.

Mr. Troyer asked Mayor Orcutt if aware of the resident wanting matching vinyl fencing throughout.

Mr. Mencini commented entrance fencing.

Mayor Orcutt responded some of the quotes received is lower than what is being appropriated and the intention of the administration is to submit on the EMA form to hopefully get that money back, due to storm damage. Continuing on page two (2) Fund 400 - Mayor's office - \$4,000.00 and Fund 411 - Safety Building - Miscellaneous - \$25,000.00 that is for waterproofing over the sally-port at the police department, both funds are carryovers from last year. Fund 412 - Police Department - the first (1st) line item - Police Vehicles - \$97,597.50 will be paid straight up with no leases and the second (2nd) line item - \$34,206.04 is for the up-fitting of both new police vehicles. Next line item is for Police Car leases - \$23,390.11 that matures in 2026; Motorola radios - \$95,000.00 will be upgrades of all radios in both the police and fire departments five-year lease matures in 2029; new guns and holsters - \$5,750.00; interview room camera - \$7,700.00; evidence camera - \$5,500.00; ballistics and vests for new hires - 30,000.00; body and vehicle worn cameras - \$56,000.00 is for equipment with a five-year lease on the operating budget of approximately \$60,000.00. Fund 413 - total \$433,059.52 for items as follows: Bunker (turnout) gear - \$25,600.00; Pumper truck lease - \$115,476.60; 2023 Ambulance lease - \$63,982.72; Motorola radios - \$85,000.00 is \$10,000.00 less than police department due to more police officer personnel; hydrant equipment to keep up with fire hydrants maintenance - \$2,000.00; Front lobby bathroom - \$1,000.00 carried over from 2024.

Questions:

Mr. Mencini stated is there anything the safety building needs?

Mayor Orcutt responded there are more needs than cash as the police and fire departments put together their capital requests; the city can't afford everything but work through what are the priorities for Council approval. The administration then labels each priority in numerical order and quarterly; then as the revenue stream comes in those priorities are put forth. The safety building is in terrible shape and something that needs to be looked at in the near future. Since taking office had the city engineer do a structural report of the building and it was found there was no egress from the second floor if a fire broke out. Also the kitchen equipment was the original and has been upgraded. With the police department weatherproofing of the sally-port because the server room is located underneath. When a prisoner is brought to the station they are brought in through the front doors, not the sally-port.

Mr. Troyer asked if something is missing on page one (1) Fund 343 with the dash (-).

Mayor Orcutt responded when seeing the dash (-) means no money is being spent out of that fund.

Mr. Troyer requested the engineer's structural report of the safety building along with vehicles and items that are needed.

Mr. Piatak responded that report was primarily focused on the egress of the stairwell and foundation of the building, was not a total structural report of the entire building; also, did a visual of the sally-port.

Mayor Orcutt continued page three (3) Fund 415 - Building Department - 100,000.00 for items as follows: Color printer - \$5,000.00 so the clerk can put agendas together, currently this is being done at City Hall. Building (storefront bay doors) windows \$40,000.00; HVAC rooftop replacement; \$15,000.00; Boiler (1967) upgrade - \$20,000.00; painting of building - \$20,000.00. Fund 419 - Animal Warden building of animal warden office - \$5,000.00; miscellaneous tools - \$3,000.00. Fund 422 - Service Building - HVAC upgrades - \$20,000.00. Fund 423 - Sanitation - \$185,867.35 - debt services of three (3) automated rubbish packer leases. Fund 425 - Street, Construction, Maintenance and Repair (S.C.M. & R.) \$51,161.19 - Service (Salt) Truck Wheel Loader four (4) year lease; Fund 426 - Traffic Signs - \$15,000.00 for replacement of street signs; Fund 429 - Sewers and Drains - \$89,500.00 - Utility Truck - 65,000.00 pump station vehicle equipped with crane, compressor and necessary tools for pump station maintenance will be keeping engine and chassis of this 2004 truck; Vactor equipment - \$5,000.00;

Discussion: cont.

Sewer Snake - \$3,000.00; Hummel Road Pump Station Rebuild - \$15,000.00; Mobile Sump Pump - \$1,500.00.

Questions:

Mr. Troyer stated with the building department windows were replaced last year so moving the department is out of the question.

Mayor Orcutt concurred and continued with Fund 432 – Snow Removal – \$56,509.52 plow truck five (5) year lease matures in 2027 - \$44,509.52; Plow blades and shoes - \$12,000.00. Fund 434 – Traffic lights - \$50,000.00 for the Eastland Road pre-signal work of traffic lights, engineer still working on and grant monies are included. Fund 440 – Tax Department - \$5,000.00 – new work station - \$3,000.00; front lobby glass replacement - \$2,000.00. Three (3) new funds created are Fund 450 – Fire Vehicle Acquisition – \$100,000.00 – Fund 451 – Police Vehicle Acquisition – \$20,000.00 and Fund 452 – Service Vehicle Acquisition - \$45,000.00; these funds should never go away and continue to feed dollars and are very important to store money for new vehicles. The difference in prices on spending of dollars on vehicles is, historically, service department 61%; fire department 27% and police department is 12%. Last year \$50,000.00 was put forward for a fire vehicle and deferred to Fire Chief Higgins.

Mr. Higgins stated the next (fire) pumper is currently being built and available summer, 2026, replica of the one (1) being built for this year.

Mayor Orcutt continued the city was not successful for a grant for a new ladder truck at a current cost of \$2.2 million-dollars and think these funds will help the city be able to make those purchases in the future. Fund 550 – Legal Department - \$5,000.00 – law books; Fund 551 – 2024/2025 Street Improvements - \$630,000.00 – Roads Program. Fund 610 – Finance Department - \$5,000.00 – computers - \$2,500.00; shredder - \$2,500.00.

Questions:

Mr. Poindexter applauded Mayor Orcutt on Funds 450, 451 and 452 that been discussed six (6) or seven (7) years. Would like to see something like that for the safety building even if starting small - \$20,000.00 or \$30,000.00 and build up for a few years, to see some progress in that direction.

Mayor Orcutt continued Fund 641 – \$1,000.00 - Office of Aging – annual miscellaneous. Fund 700 – General Government Lands & Buildings - \$56,145.71 – ten (10) year payback with zero (\$0%) for the library agreement for the parking lot repaving - \$17,678.29; postage machine lease - \$3,466.92; American flags/banners to include more breast cancer awareness - \$35,000.00 upgrades.

Questions: cont.

Mr. Mencini concurred with the American flags/banners would like to see more at Snow and Smith Road intersection and along I-71 advertising Home Days celebration.

Mayor Orcutt continued with the City of Brook Park Fund 551 - 2025 Roads Program – Miscellaneous Roads Program was on the 2024 Roads Program starting at Glenway Drive and working south then the tornado hit and work stopped. Leftover monies were \$88,953.00 and what was learned through the program is that the city will be able to reach Holland Road from where the program ended in 2024. Also, includes West 151st and Elm Road that entire intersection has crumbled. Fund 243 - 2025 Sidewalk Program \$15,000.00 was suspended last year when the tornado hit (August).

Mr. Mencini asked with the miscellaneous joint repairs that will for Sylvia Drive back to Glenway Drive; is that what is being talked about?

Mayor Orcutt responded from Holland Road to Glenway Drive and deferred to the service director.

Mr. Beyer concurred with Mr. Mencini and responded there are some good areas that are salvageable. This would mostly the bad joints and/or bad slabs and there is probably more good than bad once getting around the bend at Glenway Drive; there are some areas at Holland Road.

Mr. Mencini asked with the sidewalk program will certain areas be done?

Mayor Orcutt stated the reason why this isn't done citywide is because there is ten (10) yards of concrete per truck that does 30+ sidewalk blocks with the goal to pour in one (1) neighborhood.

Mr. Beyer stated the intention this year, like last year, is to finish whole neighborhoods such as Engle and Eastland Roads; Grosse; Claudia; Hio and Dale Drives, so that whole area between Sheldon to Eastland Roads.

Mr. Troyer stated on Sylvia Drive that will be full-depth areas the whole foot next to the curb was chunks of asphalt, that was cleaned up by the service department crews.

Mayor Orcutt continued with Fund 240 – Asphalt Resurfacing Program and gave an explanation on how this program will be executed. There are eight (8) bullet points and like last year the goal is to hit streets with contingency monies. The first eight Streets have an estimated cost of \$1,138,162.11 with the following streets being done first (1st): Sylvia Drive, Zehman Court, Richard Drive (Fry Road east is

Discussion: cont.

estimated at 50%); Holland Road (Fry to Smith Roads); Pemberton Drive (Hummel Road to Van Wert Drive); Middlebrook Boulevard (Heatherwood north) Middlebrook Boulevard (Sheldon Road to Wolf Drive). Utilizing the left over contingency money the second wave of streets (per legislation) have been 'earmarked' for Siegler Drive; Richard Drive (Smith Road west); Middlebrook Boulevard (West 130th Street south).

Mr. McCorkle asked feel confident the second wave of streets can be done with contingency monies?

Mayor Orcutt responded myself, Service Director Beyer and City Engineer Piatak feel very confident that will definitely get those streets done. Hope there is even additional monies for more roads.

Mr. Troyer stated with Pemberton Drive and the new housing units will make the area look very nice.

Mayor Orcutt commented as leaders are pushing the city forward in rebuilding. The service director and city engineer put a lot of time into this as well as Crossroads Construction.

Mr. Poindexter stated program been around for a few years and am confused why relying on contingency money. Basically, know what can be done moneywise so why the contingency money?

Mayor Orcutt responded Crossroads gives an estimate of streets with milling, filling and top seal as well as possible catch-basin repairs. There is anticipation of being able to get more streets done after the second wave gets done.

Mr. Troyer mentioned if there is leftover contingency monies Scott Drive is in bad shape; Harrow Drive and Cambridge Court, in Ward One (1).

Mr. Beyer stated pertaining to the contingency monies that is requested by both myself and Mayor Orcutt because we want to be able come back to Council and say want to put these monies towards other roads. Working with Crossroads there is a scenario to include contingency monies.

Mr. Mencini stated looking at this list this a lot because there were a few years' streets weren't done. Talking to the constituents the main problem spoke about is roads as well as other matters.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Dufour stated good list of roads do like the idea of doing one-half of the street and doing other half with contingency monies and then milling all at once. That's a smart way of doing this and are getting a lot of streets done.

Mr. Roberts stated happy with the list especially West 151st street, that was done in 2010 with bad concrete and is currently a dirt road after the plows.

Mayor Orcutt thanked everyone for the kind comments and continued Fund 240 - Asphalt Resurfacing Inspection - \$12,000.00. Sylvia Drive Reconstruction from Mercer to Michael Drives will be a full-depth reconstruction with the estimated amount - \$1,082,966.67. Fry Road (south of Holland Road to Birchcroft Drive full-depth reconstruction estimated amount - \$778,158.15. Fund 241 - State Route (SR) 237 (Sheldon Road to Eastland Road Resurfacing Construction Design Project - \$125,000.00. There are monies for projects that have been 'earmarked' through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for two (2) projects on SR 237. First (1st) the bridge-decks at Snow Road and SR 237 will be project number one (1) with the following year the resurfacing of SR 237 from Eastland Road (north) to Brookpark Road. The city is hoping to get the design work done this year for SR 237 from Sheldon to Eastland Roads.

Mr. Piatak stated the SR 237 bridges over Snow Road is leading this project and has the design completed with the contract being sold late last year or early this year, moving forward in 2025. SR 237 resurfacing project from Eastland to Brookpark Road is split into two (2); one (1) is the section from Sheldon to Eastland (south) Roads being city responsibility. The section of Eastland Road (north) is an ODOT project. The city is trying to coordinate both projects to be sold at one (1) time for that work. Currently, there is \$900,000.00 committed from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for the city's segment and trying to work on additional funds to help supplement the additional costs.

Mayor Orcutt continued Snow Road Preventive Maintenance - Fund 551 - Snow Road Preventative Maintenance - \$125,000.00 is a carryover from 2024 Roads Program, due to weather.

Mr. Beyer continued with Fund 242 - Road Striping - \$60,000.00 is for Cedar Point Road, Ruple Road, Aerospace Parkway as well as Smith and Snow Roads.

Mayor Orcutt continued Fund 2023 - Road Program Crack Seal - \$20,000.00 for preventative maintenance for roads done 2023. Fund 401 - The waterpark and Kennedy Memorial Parking lots - 367,320.24; Fund 459 Wengler Basin engineering- \$100,000.00 is a carryover continuation from 2024. Fund 243 - Municipal Campus retention basin - \$100,000.00 is for construction documents creation and generated and Mr. Marnacheck was successful in writing and obtaining a grant in

Discussion: cont.

the amount of \$1.5 million-dollars from Cuyahoga County, for demolition. Fund 401 - West-end fire station driveway - \$125,000.00 with an estimated total for the 2025 Roads program - \$4,270,687,00.

Questions:

Mr. Poindexter stated the city campus retention basin will be hard sell for me but okay with the use of grants monies for the construction documents, look forward to the engineer's report. Do not think this retention basin will serve the same purpose as the Wedo Park retention basin.

Mayor Orcutt responded I am aware and think there a lot of people that think Wedo Park is a nice feature and well worth the money.

Mr. Mencini stated when flooding happens it's a nightmare and I am for the retention basin, looking forward to the engineer's report. To Mr. Beyer when Holland Road is done will the (service) driveway apron be done?

Mr. Beyer responded the incline portion was done by city service crews less than ten (10) years ago.

Mr. Troyer commented Sylvia Drive, south of Holland as well as Grayfriar Drive. Would rather spend \$100,000.00 on the Wengler retention basin instead of the \$100,000.00 municipal campus retention basin. Would like to see how the water is going to get to the West Creek watershed with the municipal campus retention basin.

Mayor Orcutt responded with the Wengler Drive basin it does not say retention, this will be a hole in the ground with a skip-plate that will act as a holding chamber for water going north. When talking about flooding it is not a city issue it is a regional problem and we all know that retention or detention basins are needed. That was part of the plan when selling the former Brookview School on Snow Road those new owners are paying for a basin to help relieve the Parkman, Thompson, Pike and Michael Drive areas. Wherever a hole can be put in the ground believe everyone needs to do that and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) is using the City of Brook Park as a demonstration to other communities need to start moving forward. With the municipal campus retention basin, it is the city engineer's intentions are to at best access point, whether closer to Sylvia Drive or Holland Road.

Mr. Troyer mentioned residents pay into the storm sewer management with their sewer bills with NEORS getting 100% and the city asking for 25% of that back. Brook Park has never received the 75% due to not being on what is called a highway; like the west branch of the Big Creek would be a highway. If the city

Questions: cont.

could get that church land on Smith Road a basin could be installed at NEORSO expense.

Mayor Orcutt rebutted the city engineer, service director and I have been working with NEORSO and its been hit and miss with Educational Alternatives but the city wants that land. That would be the ultimate project for the city to get that land and tee-off that elbow, a monstrous basin could be installed, and needs to happen in this community.

Mr. Troyer concurred, with the Fry Road reconstruction project that will be the intersection of Fry Road and Birchcroft Drive.

Mayor Orcutt responded there is a game plan to the roads program and after four (4) years the city has been able to get 40 roads done in this community which is a great accomplishment from City Council and the administration. With the estimated total roads program cost of \$4,270,687.00 minus the engineer's costs this will be a \$4 million-dollar Roads Program which is the largest program paid in cash.

Mr. Salvatore commented it's hard to beat cash.

Mayor Orcutt continued with the Fund 243 - 2025 Economic Development worksheet: Engineering for municipal campus retention basin - \$100,000.00 is from grant monies from NOACA. Senior Services - \$250.00 for grass and snow plowing services; 2025 Sidewalk Program - \$15,000.00; Storefront loan renovation program \$500.00 is from 2024 done by legislation to provide loans to business owners to spruce up their buildings that includes interest and payback to the city. All loan applications will be brought forth to both the Planning Commission and City Council for approval. Gateway Project I-71 and Snow Road - \$400.00 there will be changes with widening of the entrance ramps. Home Maintenance Assistance Program (HMAP) - \$50,000.00 - deferred to Mr. Marnacheck.

Mr. Marnacheck stated in 2024 there were four (4) successful applications with the most common improvement roof replacement. Unfortunately, when it comes to the liens being placed on the property five (5) to seven (7) residents were not comfortable with having a lien.

Questions:

Mr. Troyer commented most likely the resident was planning to move once repairs were done. Just spoke about the storefront loan program that pays itself back. This program is for five-years?

Questions - Fund 243: cont.

Mr. Marnacheck responded if the ownership of the property is five (5) years and some of the older residents didn't want to place a burden on their children if they should pass away.

Mr. Troyer asked what is the average grant? HMAP is to keep seniors in their home.

Mr. Marnacheck stated \$4,000.00 or \$5,000.00.

Mayor Orcutt stated just wanted to share the feedback on this program and be transparent with this program. When this program first (1st) started the intention was to spruce up the neighborhood and add value to residential properties, that the homeowner couldn't afford.

Mr. Salvatore commented this program increases the value of properties.

Mr. Troyer asked how many applicants were there.

Mr. Marnacheck responded several residents called for an application and may not have been able to find a contractor, provide their portion of the monies or other variables didn't line up. There was dialogue of 40 residents.

Mr. Troyer asked how much money was used for the program.

Mr. Marnacheck responded roughly \$20,000.00 but can provide the exact number.

Mr. Troyer commented there are other ways this can be adjusted, to make more useful for residents.

Mr. Mencini stated the intention of this program is home maintenance and one thing the city wants to do is enhance Brook Park and help residents.

Mayor Orcutt continued with Fund 243 the last one (1) item is the demolition of the BP gas station/restoration - \$30,000.00.

Mr. Troyer stated with the Gateway Project was it \$200,000.00.

Mayor Orcutt responded that was \$200,000.00 in 2023 and bumped up in 2024.

Mr. Poindexter stated maybe put some wind turbines on I-71, few years ago some headway was made on that.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. McGann continued with three (3) year disbursements includes the 3 1/4% payroll increases and also there are some discrepancies in Recreation and Service Departments - Salaries and Benefits - due to reallocations for salaries in 2024 for emergency disaster recovery. Will be touching on different departments that have increases or decreases other than those mentioned. Page two (2) - Fund 341 - Recreation Center - line item 513 - Part-time salaries have increases as well as some operational increases due to expanding programs within the recreation center. Fund 342 - line item line item 511 - Regular Salaries one (1) additional service worker has been added. Fund 343 - Public Recreation - line item 511 - Regular Salaries has increases due to expansion of recreation programs. Page three - Fund 400 - Mayor's office - line item 511 - Regular Salaries has a decrease due to full-time member moving to part-time. Fund 405 - Correctional Facility - line item 529 - Contracts there is an increase and costs for prisoners. Page four (4) - Fund 411 - Safety Building - line item 529 - Contracts has increases for dispatching services. Fund 412 - Police Department - line item 511 - Regular Salaries has an increase for hiring of a new officer. Fund 412 - Police Department - line item 529 - Contracts has an increase for body-worn cameras with the subscription costs of \$60,000.00. Fund 413 - Fire Department - line item 511 - Regular Salaries has an increase for hiring of an additional firefighter.

Mr. Scott asked with Fund 410 - Safety Director - Regular Salaries is that for half the year?

Mr. McGann concurred and stated budgeting for a new safety director later this year.

Mr. Troyer stated to Police Chief Powers it was mentioned that two (2) officer retired and are only hiring one (1) officer. Will another officer be hired later in the year?

Mr. Powers responded one (1) officer recently retired and another officer is retiring between April or May, and will address at that time.

Mr. Troyer continued won't be down one (1) from what the department has?

Mr. Powers responded looking to maintain the certain number with the one (1) officer being hired is not with the department, to date, still in the police academy. When the other officer retires later in the year there will be a replacement.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Higgins with the one (1) new employee is that a replacement filling a spot that needs to be filled?

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Higgins responded yes, that will be a replacement for myself, will be leaving in May, 2025.

Mayor Orcutt stated working with Civil Service the police chief and Lt. Dulin has been able to implement a new program for lateral transfers. When it comes to the fire department there is still an active chief list.

Mr. McGann continued page five (5) no changes moving onto page six (6). Fund 423 - Sanitation - line item 527 - Miscellaneous Expenses - increase due to solid waste disposal (dumping fees) costs. Page seven (7) Fund 429 - Sewers & Drains - line item 511 - Regular Salaries increase for one (1) new employee. Fund 432 - Snow Removal - line item 512 - Overtime increase due to weather. Fund 500 - Legal Department - line item 511 - Regular Salaries increase for an additional employee. Fund 610 - Finance Department - line item 511 - Regular Salaries decrease due to an overlap of resignation finance director and hiring a new director.

Mr. Troyer stated Fund 433 - Street lighting - line item 520 - Utilities shows an increase. Shouldn't that be down since the city has all the LED's?

Mr. McGann and Mr. Scott responded all the LED's are not in to date.

Mayor Orcutt stated the street lighting program was passed and tied to the former Brookview Elementary School, when sold the city received the funds. That is basically for engineering and Illuminating Company.

Mr. Troyer asked if it is expected to get done this year?

Mayor Orcutt responded the city hopes but it's up to the Illuminating Company so the city will do their best.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Beyer with the one (1) new employee in Fund 429 - Sewers & Drains, is that replacing the employee that moved to Parks & Recreation?

Mr. Beyer responded that will be a new extra employee for 2025.

Mayor Orcutt responded there are certain reasons that another person must be put on because employees are not available right now.

Mr. Troyer asked Madam Horvath with the new employee in the legal department is that a replacement for someone leaving?

Discussion: cont.

Madam Horvath responded with Mr. Sackett retiring and the new prosecutor hired there are some tasks that Mr. Sackett performed that the new prosecutor cannot. Also, with the movement of an administrative assistant to assistant law director a new employee is needed for typing of legislation, claims other miscellaneous tasks.

Mr. McGann continued to page eight (8) Fund 640 - Emergency Disaster Recovery has a budget of \$545,000.00 for 2025 as the city continues to recover from the tornado. Fund 700 - General Government Lands & Buildings - line item 520 - Utilities has a conservative increase for the Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station. Fund 700 - General Government Lands & Buildings - line item 529 - Contracts has an increase due to the implementation of the new payroll system. Fund 840 - Insurance & Bonding - line item shows an increase due to tornado and incident costs. Fund 874 - Miscellaneous Executive has increases due to legal fees and ambulance costs.

Mr. Mencini stated to Mr. McGann with Fund 640 - Emergency Disaster Services increase due to the tornado the city is still paying for items.

Mr. McGann responded cleanup will continue throughout the year and the recreation center roofing project was turned into a complete roof project; so monies were moved from Fund 640 to its own fund.

Mr. Mencini asked if any of those monies will come back to the city?

Mayor Orcutt responded yes, the city is working with both the state and through Selective Insurance who is being very careful with this claim due to the big project. Also, hope to get roughly \$800,000.00 or maybe a bit more from EMA. With the city's insurance company looking at \$3 million-dollars but think the claim may be \$4.2 million-dollars.

Mr. McGann continued on page nine (9) Fund 210 - City Income Tax - line item 511 - Regular Salaries increase is due to a retiring part-time employee and replacement with a full-time employee due to Cleveland Browns stadium project in 2026.

Mayor Orcutt commented the Cleveland Browns estimation of 5,000 employees working in the city on the dome.

Mr. Scott stated to Mr. McGann - Fund 210 - City Income Tax - line item 574 - Refunds what is the increase for?

Mr. McGann responded the department always budgets conservatively for refunds; the city's net profits can be unpredictable.

Discussion: cont.:

Mr. Scott asked Mr. McGann if the 'work from home' involved in that line item?

Mr. McGann responded no, this is predominately for net profit, moving forward. Page 10 - Fund 240 - S.C.M. & R. Fund - line item 527 - Miscellaneous Expenses increase is for an asphalt inspector. Line item 553 - Construction Contracts increase is related to asphalt resurfacing. Fund 241 - State Highway Improvement Fund - line item 523 - Professional Services has an increase due to design work on SR 237. Fund 242 - Permissive Tax Fund - line item 527 - Miscellaneous Expenses increase due to road striping, crack-seal and gasoline costs. Fund 250 - Special Recreation increase is due to expansion of recreational programs.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. McGann how many employees in the S.C.M.R. fund?

Mr. McGann responded six (6). Page 12 Fund 264 - Water Park increases are for wages and the water park closing early due to the tornado. Page 13 - Fund 290 -- Insurance Fund is budgeted at \$1.6 million-dollars for a transfer-in based on what the city already has but expect to receive more proceeds. Page 15 - Fund 711 - Police Pension is budgeted at 22% due to legislation at state level that did not pass but will be reintroduced.

Mr. Troyer asked Mr. McGann on page 14, Fund 517 Sound Insulation - line item 523 - Professional Services?

Mr. McGann responded that is legal fees for the City of Cleveland lawsuit.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Dufour, discussed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Dufour, Roberts, Troyer, Scott, McCorkle, Mencini
NAYS: Unanimous.

3. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 351.03 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED 'PROHIBITED STANDING OR PARKING PLACES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Dufour.

Mr. Dufour reiterated how this legislation came about six (6) months ago when another piece of legislation was on the agenda amending 351.99 - Penalty. Was going to be moved from an M-4 to an M-3 to address handicapped parking issues. Looking at state laws, local laws and other cities laws this was the first (1) material one (1) that made sense. The purpose of this legislation is if there is a repeat offender they can be fined under an M-3, per number 18.

Mr. Troyer stated making parking on front lawns and two (2) or three (3) feet from the driveway apron. The apron is a public right-of-way and would like to add a number 19 to read 'no person shall stand or park a vehicle on any front lawn area

Discussion: cont.

to include gravel, river rock or mulch; exceptions would be special circumstances construction or one-time party.

Mr. Scott stated concerning parking on front lawns spoke with the city's building inspector if there is anything on the books regarding parking on front lawns. Response was code section 1361.13 and suggested to make this legislation simple add words street lawn area.

Mr. Mencini stated receive calls about neighbor's parking on street and parking near driveway apron.

Mr. Troyer stated 13613.13 is enforced by the building department and 351.03 is part of the traffic code and enforced by the police officers.

Mayor Orcutt stated Madam Horvath and I have talked about this and is looking at a grant to update the city codes. Also, with the parking on front lawns there are no more warnings a citation is given.

Mr. Dufour stated let's make these changes to the codes prior to the new development coming to the city.

Mr. Troyer stated to Mr. Scott the building commissioner would have it read no person shall stand or park a vehicle on street lawn area.

Mayor Orcutt suggested having a meeting with police chief and law director as to how this can be enforced.

Mr. Dufour stated don't need an additional law for parking on front lawns.

Mr. Troyer interjected building department does not work on the weekends.

Mayor Orcutt stated if anyone is parked on the front lawn call or text me so it can be taken care of.

Motion by Mr. Poindexter, supported by Mr. Mencini discussed.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Poindexter, Mencini, McCorkle, Scott, Roberts, Dufour, Troyer

NAYS: Unanimous.

SAFETY COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, TROYER:

Mr. Troyer stated before reading the title per Council rules this legislation should not be in safety committee.

Mr. Salvatore stated as Chairman believe this legislation should be in the safety committee. Will take out of safety committee and place under **discussion**.

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 333.07 OF THE BROOK PARK CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED 'STREET RACING' AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Introduced by Councilman Dufour.

Mr. Dufour stated this has been occurring in cities with motorists blocking off streets. This will update the code to match state law and adds a section allowing the confiscation of parts of vehicle(s) involved in street takeovers.

Mr. Mencini stated would hope this isn't Brook Park asked Mr. Powers if this occurs?

Mr. Powers responded with street racing there is not an issue in the city as far as taking over streets. Brook Park is more open, not many places to hide, and as far as taking parts of cars i.e. tires that won't happen. Police chases happen in the City of Cleveland because police don't enforce the laws and they stay out of Brook Park due to heavy police presence. There are laws on the books that pertain to these matters.

Mr. Poindexter stated make it clear that anything that can happen, may happen, even in Brook Park. Do agree with Mr. Powers of having something on the books to address these situations.

Mr. Dufour agreed with Mr. Powers this legislation is about being prepared; with the confiscation in section f that is part of the Ohio Revised Code.

Mr. Powers interjected haven't seen the law would this be in the criminal or traffic section?

Mr. Dufour responded section three (3) of the code.

Mr. Powers commented traffic section, traffic ticket. What is the penalty?

Mr. Roberts responded M-1.

Mr. Dufour commented first (1st) degree misdemeanor.

Mr. Powers without the confiscation of the vehicle it's essentially a retro-soft charge which (code) 331.05. Which matches penalty to penalty of six (6) points.

Discussion: cont.

Mr. Troyer commented the biggest problem with this legislation is the penalties, also, the confiscation of the automobile; street racing would be 30 days mandatory. This is essentially as the City of Cleveland passed recently and have been bringing people to justice with cameras and so forth, prior to the legislation being written. The State of Ohio is pretty much the same with very important differences.

Mr. Powers asked will this legislation be merged with current code of drag-racing?

Mr. Dufour concurred.

Motion by Mr. Dufour, supported by Mr. Poindexter, - read in committee.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dufour, Poindexter, Roberts, Troyer, Mencini, McCorkle, Scott
NAYS: Unanimous.

There being no further business to come before this meeting a **motion** by Mr. Mencini, supported by Mr. Dufour, to adjourn.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mencini, Dufour, Roberts, Troyer, Scott, McCorkle, Poindexter
NAYS: Unanimous.

Council President Salvatore declared this meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


Carol Johnson
Clerk of Council

APPROVED February 11, 2025

(As amended)

THESE MEETING MINUTES APPROVED BY BROOK PARK CITY COUNCIL ARE A SYNOPSIS, NOT TRANSCRIBED IN THEIR ENTIRETY, ALTHOUGH ACCURATE.