

BROOKVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 4, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Brookville City Council was called to order by Mayor Seagraves at 7:30 p.m. on November 4, 2014 in the Brookville Council Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members Apgar, Cantrell, Duncan, Garber, Kirklin and Letner; Fire Chief Fletcher, Police Chief Jerome, Law Director Stephan, Manager Wright and Assistant Manager/Finance Director/Clerk Keaton were present.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to accept the Agenda as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Apgar, second by Cantrell to accept the October 21, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes. All yeas, motion carried.

Manager Wright reported the salt supply this winter will be questionable for Brookville as well as the surrounding communities. While our salt bin is full of 600 tons of salt, last year we used approximately 1,000 to 1,200 tons of salt. Manager Wright reported we will operate differently this year in order to make our salt supply last, and unfortunately we will not have black streets. During a snow event, we will respond at the beginning and salt on a regular basis all major roadways, most intersections, hills and the highway overpass. If an event lasts 24 hours or longer, we will wait until the event is about over to start our cleanup process, which will involve more plowing and less salt. Manager Wright advised currently there is no salt available to purchase and the price of salt has nearly doubled since last year to \$113 a ton. In the past we have worked with Montgomery County in a cooperative deal where they worked out of our yard, but this year Montgomery County will be salting rural roads with grit, which is basically a sand and salt mix. Manager Wright advised we do not use grit because it messes up our storm sewers and the EPA does not like it.

Member Duncan commented there is a massive pile of salt on Interstate 270 North near Columbus.

Manager Wright stated that is most likely a private salt supply. Manager Wright stated suppliers say there is a salt shortage but he believes by late January or early February we will be able to buy all the salt we want. Manager Wright advised we will just have to play it by ear, but he wanted to forewarn everyone that things may be a little more difficult this winter.

Member Garber inquired about using beet juice on our roads?

Manager Wright stated we do not use beet juice, we use something similar called liquid calcium, or calcium chloride, which makes the salt more effective and allows us to use less salt. We treat every truckload of salt with liquid calcium as there is no shortage of this product and it is not expensive to use.

Manager Wright reported we are in the heart of our leaf pick-up season with crews running the leaf vacuum every day, weather permitting. Crews have made seven rounds through the City to date, and will hopefully wrap up by the end of November.

Manager Wright reported the concrete work is done on the bikeway project with just the painting and striping of the intersections left to do.

Manager Wright advised the Service Department has completed our in-house road striping. We are waiting on the contractor to stripe West Upper Lewisburg-Salem Road.

Manager Wright stated he is pleased to report our 15 year old 1-ton dump truck sold on GovDeals for \$15,807.

Manager Wright reported we have a major engine issue with our back-up ambulance, which will involve pulling the engine. Manager Wright advised this puts us in a bind as we are operating with a borrowed ambulance. The repair will take approximately two weeks with a cost of approximately \$7,000.

Manager Wright reported we received our community fire rating and it is probably the best rating that the Fire Department has ever had. Manager Wright stated he is very proud of our Fire Department and commended Fire Chief Fletcher for his efforts to achieve such a good rating.

Fire Chief Fletcher stated we were previously rated at the bottom of the scale within the City and the Townships with regard to our abilities. Fire Chief Fletcher stated he is tickled that we increased our rating two points within the City and quadrupled our point rating within the Townships. Fire Chief Fletcher commented he will give a more detailed presentation of the ISO rating at the next Council Meeting.

Member Garber requested Fire Chief Fletcher to include the costs for recommended improvements with his presentation.

Manager Wright reported there are two pieces of legislation on the agenda pertaining to our city income tax. Manager Wright reported proposed Ordinance No. 2014-11 stipulates an increase of one-quarter of one percent of our current income tax rate of 1.75 percent. The second piece of legislation is proposed Resolution No. 14-29 which specifies May 5, 2015 as the date that this will be on the ballot for our citizens to vote upon.

Motion by Cantrell, second by Kirklin to read proposed Ordinance No. 2014-11. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Garber, second by Kirklin to accept the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 2014-11. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Cantrell, second by Kirklin to read proposed Resolution No. 14-29. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Apgar, second by Garber to approve the first reading of proposed Resolution 14-29. All yeas, motion carried.

Manager Wright reported the other pieces of legislation on the Agenda, with the exception of the alley vacation, deal with City employees. A previously passed Collective Bargaining Agreement calls for a 2% wage increase which goes into effect in 2015. The proposed resolutions will apply that same rate to all City of Brookville employees.

Motion by Garber, second by Apgar to read proposed Resolution No. 14-22 through proposed Resolution No. 14-28. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Garber, second by Apgar to accept the first reading of proposed Resolution No. 14-22 through proposed Resolution No. 14-28. All yeas, motion carried.

Manager Wright commented we have come to rely heavily on our part-time employees and they are very important to us. Manager Wright advised we are in competition with other entities for part-time employees, particularly in our Fire Department. This is the reason for increasing the part-time wage as well.

Member Garber advised DP&L had to raise the wage for part-time meter readers by 20% in order to compete with other entities for employees.

Manager Wright reminded everyone that the annual Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet is this Friday evening and the Optimist Club Annual Pumpkin Walk is this Saturday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Member Garber said the fence along the bikeway between Salem Street and Arlington Road is questionable as to whether it would keep someone from going into Wolf Creek if they ran into it. Member Garber asked if the fence has been inspected recently?

Manager Wright replied Five Rivers Metro Parks is in charge of the maintenance along the bikeway but he will take a look at the fence.

Manager Wright announced we will hold our annual breakfast with our local businesses on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 7:30 a.m. at the Brookhaven Conference Center and encouraged Council Members to attend.

Manager Wright stated Council Members are invited to the Englewood Prayer Breakfast on November 20, 2014 at 7:30 a.m.

Manager Wright announced the Christmas Tree Lighting sponsored by the Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce is on December 3, 2014 on Market Street. Manager Wright stated there will be horse and buggy rides and other activities at the event.

Member Garber asked if they have found a Christmas tree yet?

Manager Wright replied the Chamber is still looking for a Christmas tree.

Fire Chief Fletcher presented the Brookville Operations Report for the month of October, which shows their call volume is 93 incidents above where they were last year. Over the past 24 months, they have had a double digit increase in activity. Fire Chief Fletcher reported medic calls, crashes and entrapments are up. The Fire Department responded to a major dollar loss fire in October, caused by someone shooting off fireworks inside a residence.

Fire Chief Fletcher thanked Manager Wright and Assistant Manager/Finance Director Keaton for including the part-time personnel in the proposed wage increase resolutions. Fire Chief Fletcher stated he is the only full-time employee on the Fire Department. Our entire emergency response personnel are made up of part-timers and we are very fortunate to have the caliber of personnel that we have. Fire Chief Fletcher advised that in May of last year, every one of our part-timers took a pay cut so that we could staff our Fire Department around the clock. Fire Chief Fletcher observed we are fortunate that our part-timers understand we cannot afford to pay them what they are worth for the amount of time we take away from their home life.

Police Chief Jerome reported the Brookville Police Department has handled 557 Reportable Incidents year-to-date, compared to 623 during this same time period last year. Citations are up 8 for a total of 459 Citations year-to-date. The Brookville Police Department made 131 traffic stops during the month of October, which is a decrease of 51 traffic stops over this same time period last year.

Police Chief Jerome introduced our new Police Clerk Liz Adams and stated she is present to see how the legislative process works. Police Chief Jerome stated Ms. Adams is working out great and fits in very well. Police Chief Jerome advised she is able to help the Detective out by completing the online filings, which frees him up for more investigative work. Police Chief Jerome advised Ms. Adams is currently attending Ohio University online to complete her bachelor's degree.

Mayor Seagraves and Council welcomed Ms. Adams to the City of Brookville.

Police Chief Jerome reported Ms. Adams and Officer Whiteaker worked well together to make the Ghostly Night event a huge success. Police Chief Jerome reported more than 1,500 people attended and thanked everyone that helped with the event.

Ms. Adams stated she is still putting the final figures together but she knows they served 800 hotdogs in about an hour and went through about 15,000 pieces of candy. Ms. Adams reported the costume contest had over 200 applicants.

Mayor Seagraves stated the MVCTC students did an excellent job helping with the event.

Police Chief Jerome reported the Police Department caught a subject who has been stealing from unlocked vehicles. The subject has been charged and is incarcerated for this crime as well as outstanding warrants from other jurisdictions.

Police Chief Jerome reported other upcoming and ongoing events are the “Be a Reading Hero Program” at the public library on Saturday, November 8, “Feed Brookville” Thanksgiving lunch on Saturday, November 15, “Toys for Tots” campaign and the “Veterans Day Lunch” at Rob’s Restaurant on Tuesday, November 11, 2014.

Police Chief Jerome echoed Fire Chief Fletcher’s and Manager Wright’s comments about competing for part time employees, stating the more our pay rates go up the more applicants we will have to choose from.

Police Chief Jerome stated Beggar’s Night went without a hitch and he was pleased to see so many kids using the Halloween bags provided by the Police Department and distributed by Brookville Schools.

Law Director Stephan had no report but requested an Executive Session on a Personnel Matter.

Assistant Manager/Finance Director Keaton presented the Fund Balance for October 31, 2014 for Council review and approval.

Motion by Duncan, second by Kirklin to approve the October 31, 2014 Fund Balance. All yeas, motion carried.

Assistant Manager/Finance Director Keaton presented a Statement received yesterday from the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation that shows we will be receiving our “Another Billion Back” rebate that she announced last month.

Mayor Seagraves had no report.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to read proposed Ordinance No. 2014-09. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to accept the third reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2014-09 entitled “AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE PORTION OF AN ALLEY ADJACENT TO MCKINLEY STREET IN THE CITY OF BROOKVILLE, OHIO.” All yeas, motion carried.

There was no Old Business.

In New Business, Member Garber requested an Executive Session on a Personnel Matter.

Motion by Duncan, second by Kirklin to go into Executive Session on a Personnel Matter as requested by Law Director Stephan and a Personnel Matter as requested by Member Garber. All yeas, motion carried.

Mayor Seagraves called Council back into Regular Session.

Motion by Cantrell, second by Apgar to enter into a contract with Management Partners as a consultant for the City Manager search at a cost not to exceed \$17,970. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Duncan, second by Kirklin to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.

Sonja M. Keaton, Clerk

David E. Seagraves, Mayor