

CITY OF BRUNSWICK, OHIO

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

Monday, March 11, 2024

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of Brunswick City Council was called to order by Mayor Ron Falconi at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex.

Roll Call of Members showed the following Council Members present: Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper.

Others Present: Mayor Ron Falconi, City Manager/Safety Director Carl DeForest, Law Director Dennis Nevar, Clerk of Council Laura Timura.

Correspondence Mrs. Timura read correspondence that was received from Lucas Merkel (131 Falmouth Court) which detailed his concerns about residents and businesses outside of Brunswick receiving a discounted membership rate for the Recreation Center that is not made available to Brunswick residents.

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated February 26, 2024.

Nicholas Hanek moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated February 26, 2024, as written, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Mayor's Report:

The Mayor's Court Financial Report for the month ending February 2024 will be posted on the website and added to the minutes for the record.

Proclamation in recognition of the Uncle Crunch Grand Opening:

Mayor Falconi presented a proclamation recognizing the grand opening of Uncle Crunch. Owner, Lena Wilson, declared that she was a graduate of Brunswick High School. She plans to do fundraising and offer donations to the schools.

Mr. Delsanter asked about the business and its location. Ms. Wilson explained that they make freeze-dried treats and novelty candies. She went on to say that the business is strictly e-commerce and does not have a retail storefront. Customers can pick up orders at her business, which is located in the German business center. Ms. Wilson informed that items are on her website and social media.

Proclamation in recognition of Tri-C Day:

Mayor Falconi presented a proclamation to Tri-C. He recalled attending the groundbreaking and watching the college grow. He recognized the important role Tri-C plays in the City of Brunswick.

Tri-C Director, Elizabeth Zeszotek, relayed that each year Tri-C serves over 41,000 students and 85% of those graduates stay within northeast Ohio. Their goal is to support people in changing their lives and creating better futures, so they can prosper. They were happy to have offered opportunities to the Brunswick community for educational growth for over 12 years.

Mr. Delsanter recalled being the Vice Mayor at the time Tri-C was constructed. He noted it was a challenge due to a levy going on in Cuyahoga County and building a campus outside the county was unique at the time. He was proud to see the campus grow and felt the campus was indispensable to the community.

Mr. Smith divulged that his son was a graduate of the Career Center and Tri-C. He went on to join the army and later worked in Washington for the Defense Department. He felt his success started with Tri-C.

Clerk of Council's Report There was none.

Council Committee Reports:

Economic Development Committee.....Mr. Lambert:

Mr. Lambert had no formal reports this evening.

Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee.....Mr. Smith:

Mr. Smith had no formal reports this evening.

Finance Committee.....Mr. Hanek:

Mr. Hanek had no formal reports this evening.

Safety & Environment Committee.....Mr. Kuczma:

Mr. Kuczma had no formal reports this evening.

Planning & Zoning Committee.....Mr. Delsanter:

Mr. Delsanter had no formal reports this evening.

Parks, Recreation & Community Committee.....Mrs. Piper:

Parks, Recreation, & Community Committee Minutes dated February 26, 2024:

Mrs. Piper moved to approve the Parks, Recreation & Community Committee Minutes dated February 26, 2024, as written, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Building & Building Code Committee.....Mr. Abella:

Building & Building Code Committee Minutes dated February 26, 2024:

Michael Abella, Jr. moved to approve the Building & Building Code Committee Minutes dated February 26, 2024, as written, seconded by Joseph Delsanter. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Other Committees, Boards and Commissions

Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated February 26, 2024:

Nicholas Hanek moved to approve the Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated February 26, 2024, as written, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Petitions from the Public on Legislation There were none.

Reading of Legislation and Action on Legislation:**3rd Reading(s)**

ORD. NO. 9-2024 - An emergency ordinance extending a temporary moratorium on the acceptance and processing of applications for zoning, occupancy and/or building permit approvals for establishments that intend to engage in retail sales and/or distribution of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products and/or electronic smoking devices in all zoning districts of the City and the issuance of such approvals. - **3rd Reading** (Committee-of-the-Whole, *Administration/Grant Aungst*):

Nicholas Hanek moved to adopt Ordinance Number 9-2024, seconded by Brandon Lambert. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

RES. NO. 10-2024 - A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a five (5) year agreement (with renewal options of up to four (4) years) with Kimble Recycling & Disposal, Inc. for the collection and disposal of residential solid waste and recycling. - **3rd Reading** (Committee-of-the-Whole, *Administration/Paul Magovac*):

Joseph Delsanter moved to adopt Resolution Number 10-2024, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 20-2024 - An ordinance repealing and replacing Section 636.19 of the City of Brunswick Codified Ordinances. - **3rd Reading** (Planning & Zoning Committee, *Administration/Grant Aungst*) :

Joseph Delsanter moved to adopt Ordinance Number 20-2024, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

2nd Reading(s)

RES. NO. 23-2024 - An emergency resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Snider Recreation, Inc. for the purchase and installation of playground equipment at Pumpkin Ridge Park in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. - **2nd Reading** (Parks, Recreation & Community Committee, *Administration/Taylor Petkovsek*):

Mrs. Piper moved this resolution to third reading.

1st Reading(s)

RES. NO. 24-2024 - An emergency resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase three (3) 2024 Ford Explorers and one (1) Ford F-150 Truck with police equipment installed for the Division of Police from Montrose Ford in an amount not to exceed \$246,500.00. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Safety & Environment Committee, *Administration/Robert Safran*):

Keith Kuczma moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Joseph Delsanter. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Keith Kuczma moved to adopt Resolution Number 24-2024, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 25-2024 - An ordinance rezoning the 5.6140-acre parcel of real property located at 1406 Congressional Avenue and further identified as PPN 003-18C-01-080 from the R-M Medium Density Residential District to the R-L Low-Density Residential District. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Planning & Zoning Committee, *Administration/Grant Aungst*):

Mr. Delsanter moved this ordinance to second reading.

City Manager's Report Mr. DeForest recognized Finance Director, Todd Fischer, as being instrumental in the financial well-being of the City. He relayed that he accompanied Mr. Fisher to Moody's in Chicago and the City's credit rating was raised from Aa2 to Aa1. Mr. DeForest credited this achievement to Mr. Fischer's ability to create and follow a plan and prioritize the needs of the community. He continued that Mr. Fischer's dedication and long hours have served the community well.

The e-pay and e-file income tax portal is currently open. Information can be found on the City's website at www.brunswick.oh.us. City tax assistance will be available on Saturday, April 6, and Saturday, April 13, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Senior Fair will be held at the Recreation Center on Wednesday, March 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Open Forum There was none.

Unfinished Business Mr. Hanek commended the Administration and Finance Director, Todd Fischer, for the incredible financial turnaround of the City and the work that went into improving the City's credit rating. He was thankful for the remarkable achievement.

He went on to recognize that the *Homes not Highways* group was in attendance at the Council Meeting. Mr. Hanek commented that they are standing together with the City of Brunswick to fight the unwanted imposition of a Boston Road interchange. He felt their efforts to stand up and not back down were tremendous.

Mr. Lambert commented that the City was in poor financial shape prior to City Manager, Carl DeForest and Finance Director, Todd Fischer's employment with the City. He noted that the turnaround was remarkable and that the City is one level away from the highest possible credit rating for a city, which is an outstanding turnaround.

Mr. Lambert relayed to the *Homes not Highways* group that primaries are coming up, after which he is hoping for movement in the State. He then thanked representatives from Uncle Crunch and Tri-C for being in attendance.

New Business Mrs. Piper announced that there will be a park clean-up event on April 20 at Pumpkin Ridge Park from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This coming Saturday there will also be a clean-up occurring at Venus Park.

Adjournment Nicholas Hanek moved to adjourn, seconded by Tim Smith. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nicholas Hanek, Brandon Lambert, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Timura, CMC
Clerk of Council


Mayor Ron Falconi

March 25, 2024

Adopted