

**City of Broadview Heights  
Work Session Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2019**

Mr. Boldt called the **WORK SESSION** to order at 7:32 p.m.

Mr. Price led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Robert A. Boldt (Ward 4 Councilor, President)  
Mr. Thomas Pavlica (Ward 1 Councilor)  
Mr. Brian Wolf (Ward 2 Councilor)  
Mr. George Stelmaschuk (Ward 3 Councilor, President Pro-Tem)  
Ms. Jennifer A. Mahnic (Councilor At-Large)  
Mr. Glenn R. Goodwin (Councilor At-Large)  
Mr. Joe Price (Councilor At-Large)

**OFFICER(S) PRESENT:** Mr. Samuel J. Alai (Mayor)  
Mr. Vince Ruffa (Law Director)  
Mr. Gary Yelenosky (City Engineer)  
Mr. David Schroedel (Service Director)  
Chief Vizer (Police Chief)  
Chief Jeffrey Hajek (Fire Chief)  
Ms. Kristina Sorensen (Economic Development Director)  
Mrs. Helen Dunlap (Clerk of Council)

**OFFICER(S) ABSENT:** Mrs. Amy Jo Washabaugh (Human Service Director)  
Mr. Michael Skvasik (Building Commissioner)  
Mr. Dave Pfaff (Finance Director)  
Mrs. Paula Horner (Parks & Recreation Director)

1. Discussion from the Economic Development Department. Ms. Sorensen

**a. Apply for a grant from Cox Communications for electronics for the Community Amphitheater**

Ms. Sorensen stated that we have some money left in the budget with the Amphitheater project and with that money they are looking to do lighting and speakers for sound system and they became aware that Cox Communications had a project opening for some grant money for things of that nature and they are our utility provider here on campus and they seem to be amenable to perhaps awarding grant funds for this type of project so we are just looking to go ahead and apply for that so that we can put some more funds towards that.

Mr. Wolf stated that because of the company we are dealing with, he would have to abstain from the legislation.

Mr. Stelmaschuk asked if they can apply with another company also or is it just Cox Communications.

Ms. Sorensen stated that they have a program that they generate a lot of grant funding towards STEM programs for children so enquiring about that program with our local liaison they had advised that they also have some money set aside for things with telecommunications which this would be for audio. They are the only one that they are aware of and it seems like a nice match for what we need and what they offer so they were amenable to it. She is not aware of any other grants of this nature.

Mr. Stelmaschuk stated he was just mentioning that because of what Mr. Wolf stated that maybe they have a grant that they award.

Mr. Wolf stated that he can look into it.

2. Discussion from the Service Department. Mr. Schroedel

a. **Agreement with Warner Hollow Welding Shop for installation of a fire escape to the Historical Society Building.**

Mr. Schroedel stated that this is for a fire escape. We took the old fire escape off of the building back at the Historical Society. It was old and literally falling off of the building. Originally since the Historical Society is only occupying the first floor of the building we were going to forgo the fire escape. It is something that we would need when we got to the point where someone would be occupying the second floor but it came about that we have about \$9,600 in grant funding left over from the grant that we got so he thinks that it would be a good idea to put this in at this time. This price is from the gentleman that did the rails for the front of the building which came out absolutely beautiful and he is confident that they can make a good product so this fire escape would go from the side of the building down to a pad.

3. Discussion from the Engineering Department. Mr. Yelenosky

a. **Agreement with Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District for PIPE Services.**

Mr. Yelenosky stated that this is an agreement with Cuyahoga Soil & Water conservation District for PIPE Services. He discussed this briefly at the last Work Session. They had sent out a letter asking for our interest and this is just to sign the MOU so again this is for minimal control measure #1 which is public education and outreach and minimum control measure #2, public participation and involvement. This will cost the city \$5,500 which is reimbursable by NEORS and is part of our MS4 permitting.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that he also passed out another MOU from Cuyahoga Soil & Water for minimum control measure #4 and that is storm water pollution prevention, erosion and sediment control. That is for \$7,500.

Mr. Stelmaschuk asked if that is also reimbursable.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that we can use community cost share funds for that. It is not reimbursable outside of that unlike the first one which is reimbursable.

Mr. Stelmaschuk stated that we should if we could because we are all paying into that.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that we did last year so they will look at that.

**b. Modification for Broadview/Oakes Road Intersection**

Mr. Yelenosky stated that as they went through the engineering and surveying they found that we are kind of restricted by the existing right of way out front at Broadview and Oakes. What we are trying to achieve with this intersection is #1 is safe pedestrian activity at that intersection and #2 ease of use for the Fire Department to get in and out of that driveway. He knows that many of you know that there are a lot of people that block that drive during critical times. We propose putting a mast arm just to the south of that hatched area that will be fully activated inside the Fire Department so the Fire Chief or his crews can press the button and the signal will turn red indicating to stop. In doing so without any curbs on the road we are kind of restricted given the right of way so he is sort of looking at having a similar procedure done line the Broadview and Valley Parkway intersection. We would get a plat done and the city would grant ourselves an easement and we may ask why we need to grant ourselves and easement and there is a long explanation that he can go into about the environmental requirements from federal regulations. He would be more than happy to have a discussion with you maybe off of the floor but this is the easiest way to get this done and still get our federal funding and be okay to fit everything within the existing project limits. There is an increase in cost with our contract and that is for \$6,719 and that is with Euthenics.

**c. Modification for Broadview/Valley Parkway Intersection**

Mr. Yelenosky stated that both (b) and (c) are similar in nature. He passed out a drawing with some highlighting and some comments on that. This is for the Broadview and Valley Parkway intersection. So as part of the process of getting it engineered we had the intersection surveyed. Some things really stood out; there is some of our city infrastructure that is outside of our right of way and on park property. When we were laying this out and in finding that, it was hard to keep the signals and the new mast arms that we are proposing within the existing right of way given all the utilities and conflicts so he had some dialogue with the Cleveland MetroParks and they are agreeable to basically grant the city and easement that is highlighted in the yellow as indicated on the drawing. Basically what he would like to do is go ahead and have a plat surveyed and legal drafted for this easement. The cost to do so from our consultant would be \$5,176 and the MetroParks is willing to donate that property at no cost to the city.

Mr. Pavlica asked if the Parks are assisting in any of this expense besides donating the land.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that we applied for what is called a TLCI Implementation Grant which is federally funded and NOACA and ODOT administer the funds. They have been willing to contribute up to \$15,000 as we submit that grant application and we are still waiting those results. If for some reason we don't get awarded, they still would contribute a portion.

Mr. Goodwin asked how much the whole engineering design is.

Mr. Yelenosky stated right around \$225,000 which is for all new mast arms, all new signals, all new equipment, crosswalks, and pedestrian signals.

Mr. Price asked if Mr. Yelenosky described to council what these signals would be like.

Mr. Yelenosky asked if he means in terms of the equipment that actually would be.

Mr. Price stated style, this isn't actually a traffic light, but there will be signal lighting right?

Mr. Yelenosky stated that it will be a fully signalized intersection.

Mr. Price asked there will actually be a traffic light there.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that there will actually be a traffic light there.

Mr. Price asked if there was no consideration for doing the walkway lighting. When they would push the button and the lights would trigger.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that we may phase it that way. We had discussions with NOACA and they did a whole analysis more than just this intersection, likewise for the one in Brecksville around Emerald Necklace, given the speeds and such, even if that was the case, they still deemed it to be an unsafe intersection or it warranted a full traffic signal. The one thing that they had some concerns with was activation for bicyclists so this signal will have the ability to detect bicycles on the roadway, not on the path. They wouldn't be able to activate that if they were on the path.

Mayor Alai stated that he is a Board Member at NOACA and they went over this at their meeting last week. They looked at 5 crossings on the Emerald Necklace and on a scale of 1-6 this was the only one that came out a 6 and again this is a NOACA study and it is because of sight lines, you come up blind on the intersection. It is fully warranted and needs to be signalized now that you have people crossing the road. Unfortunately it will need to be a 4 way traffic signal. He will know on Friday because he is a member of the Policy and Programing and their meeting is on Friday to see who gets the TICI Grant. He will send an email out to let council know if we receive the grant.

Mr. Yelenosky stated that sightline, speed are part of what they take into account as they do their analysis. The next step for this would be to go ahead and have it drafted the plat and the legal done by our sub consultant, Trans Systems so it would be a modification to our existing agreement and then we would have that plat and legal recorded with the county.

Mr. Yelenosky also stated that Wyatt Road construction will begin on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. He will be sending notifications out within a couple 100 feet of the project area by the end of the week.

4. Discussion from the Finance Department. Mr. Pfaff

Mr. Boldt stated that Mr. Pfaff had to leave abruptly today so our thoughts and prayers are with his family right now. We are going to move this to the next Work Session.

a. **2019 Appropriations**

b. **Council and Mayor Salaries**

5. Discussion from Council.

a. **Rezoning on Royalton Road from Planning Commission. Mr. Boldt**

Mr. Pavlica stated that this rezoning of the Royalton Road property went to the Planning Commission a few weeks ago on December 19, 2018. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Special Planning District "B" and whether or not duplex homes would be permitted in this area and after lengthy discussion it was

concluded that it would be acceptable so the Planning Commission did vote to recommend this and send it back to council.

**b. Council Summer Schedule. Mr. Boldt**

Mr. Boldt stated that with no issues from council they will put that on the next council meeting for a vote.

6. Discussion from the Police Department. Chief Vizer

**a. Resolution of Appreciation for Sgt. Randy Labusky**

Chief Vizer stated that Sgt. Randoulph Labusky is retiring from the Police Department after 33 years of service so he would ask that we put a resolution of appreciation on and also present him with his duty weapon as is customary.

COUNCIL OPEN TO THE RESIDENTS

None this evening.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mr. Price stated that there was no BZA meeting in January and there is no BZA meeting in February due to no agenda items.

Ms. Mahnic stated that the Service/Safety Committee did meet and they discussed the Glen Oak storm water project specifically as it relates to appraisals and the committee decided to move it to a Council Work Session. She is not sure if Council President wants to add it to tonight's agenda or move it to the next Work Session. She is sure that Mr. Yelenosky can add some more specific details but they did get in their Dropbox a letter from Smith and Nejedlik with what their costs would be to do the appraisals of the property. They deemed one of the properties not necessary to the project so that would eliminate a few dollars and they did discuss some general costs that they think this project would be if we wanted to move forward. She felt like this decision, whatever they do for this project might be the example that other ones would follow and she has some concerns with moving forward when it is not discussed with all 7 council people. That is her personal opinion. This is as we know a retention basin that has been privately owned and not maintained and as a result there are people that are getting large quantities of water and we keep going in circles, do we go in there and clean it out, this proposal that they discussed today would be acquiring land near the existing one and building a new one that the city would then ultimately maintain. So the item on the agenda is whether or not we want to hire this appraiser to get hard numbers of what it would cost to obtain this land but they did not make a decision on that, they brought it here. She knows that is a lot and half of council was at the meeting and there is far more to it and it is not as simplistic as she is making it sound to be but she definitely thinks that they should all really be thinking about this because this is not the only area. She leaves it in the President's hands if they want to discuss it now or move it to the next Work Session but we definitely have to start making some decisions of how we are going to handle these situations.

Mr. Boldt stated that he understands her comments and he is going to give council 2 weeks to review all the notes and the implications and then discuss it in 2 weeks at the next Work Session.

Ms. Mahnic stated that she thinks that great because this is not a simple decision because this can affect how we do business in other areas of the community or people can use this as the example. Please talk to Mr. Yelenosky and really get a lot of information from him because we are about to make a big decision regardless of what direction we go.

Mr. Pavlica stated that there is a Civil Service meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00.

Mr. Wolf stated that there will be a GPZ meeting at 7:00 on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. He did want to bring up one item, being representative to the school district and they have the school board meetings on the same night we have council meetings so we can't attend them. He did listen to the 3 hour meeting recording and it was lengthy and he finds it interesting that the school board was considering housing the pre-K students at Blossom on a permanent basis and then moving their administrative offices to be attached to the new elementary school that they were going to build which was not on the ballot that they voted for. The Mayor had sent a wonderful letter that was read because he was here and he highly encourages anyone to listen to those notes. Run over to the 2 hour mark and you can hear the Mayor's letter that was read into record. They were talking about possibly redoing the tennis courts at \$500,000 - \$750,000. The Mayor offered our tennis courts for them to use which makes perfect sense. There was also discussion of moving the administrative offices where the courts were and he thinks that they have changed direction completely since that meeting and they are going to keep the pre-K at Blossom on a temporary basis because they are closing the Central School unexpectedly which is interesting as well. He has been reading some discussions about how if a contractor next door caused damage to a building, why aren't they going to that contractor and getting restitution and getting it fixed. He is not sure what is going on with that. That was not discussed. He doesn't know if the Mayor wants to chime in on anything that he had mentioned in his letter in regards to what is going on with the new elementary school building and the land swaps and whatnot.

Mayor Alai stated that he will just be brief because he knows that this is councils time, what he will do is forward the letter to council but what had happened is that they had a special meeting on a Monday and then on the very next day came out with this plan to put the children, preschoolers at a building that they abandoned 30 years ago, sell all of their assets, rent from Brecksville long term and put their new digs for the administrators in the building we voted to house children in and they were going to vote on it a week later. Luckily he knows a few people in the district and he was able to pen a letter and they did and he doesn't want to say that it is based solely on what he wrote but they did seem to back off of that but this is taxpayer dollars. He can't tell them how to teach the children or how to work with their teachers union but when they use taxpayers' dollars from our citizens he thinks that we should have a say in all of this and unfortunately that is not really happening and he thinks that maybe we should look a little closer as to what is going on with the school district.

Mr. Wolf stated that there were a lot of residents there and that is why it was a 3 hour meeting because they all spoke and they were from all over the place against the plans that they were proposing which he thinks helped change their mind.

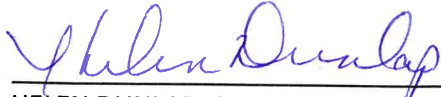
Mr. Stelmaschuk stated that due to the situation that we had today, they are going to schedule Finance Committee for next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. They have to do that and our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Pfaff.

Mr. Boldt stated that there are no Planning Commission meetings this month

ADJOURN

Mr. Boldt stated that with no further business to come before the council, this meeting is adjourned.

The time was 7:56 p.m.



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HELEN DUNLAP, CLERK OF COUNCIL



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ROBERT BOLDT, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL