

Brookville City Council
Regular Meeting
March 5, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Brookville City Council was called to order by Mayor Letner at 7:30 p.m. on March 5, 2024. The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers and virtually using the Cisco Webex application. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members Crane, Fowler, Piper, Schreier, Wilder and Zimmerlin; Manager Kuntz, Finance Director Brandt, Law Director Stephan, Fire Chief Fletcher, Police Chief Jerome and Clerk Duncan were present.

Roll Call by Clerk Duncan.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Fowler to accept the Agenda as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Fowler, second by Piper to accept the February 20, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Fire Chief Fletcher announced the 2023 Firefighter of the Year Award is Firefighter/Paramedic Gavin McGriff. Unfortunately, FF/Paramedic McGriff is not able to be present this evening as he is in class completing his training to become a certified Fire Safety Inspector. Fire Chief Fletcher presented the 2023 EMS Provider of the Year Award to Firefighter/Paramedic Phoenix Robinson. Fire Chief Fletcher presented the 2023 Officer of the Year Award to Lieutenant Dustin Copley. Fire Chief Fletcher stated all three men are good examples of our department, and the Brookville Fire Department is fortunate to have them on staff.

Mayor Letner congratulated each recipient and thanked them for their service to the City of Brookville.

Manager Kuntz reported the Wolf Creek Watermain Replacement Project is on schedule to start the week of March 4. Traffic should be maintained throughout the entirety of the project except for when the project tap-in at Arlington Road occurs. If there are any projected road detours during this part of the project, city staff will communicate that with the community. The Hay Avenue Resurfacing Project also continues to be on track to start the middle of this month.

Manager Kuntz advised the Brookville Board of Zoning Appeals has a board vacancy. Staff is requesting City Council authorization to allow staff to advertise for the vacancy.

Motion by Schreier, second by Fowler to authorize Clerk Duncan to advertise for the open seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. All yeas, motion carried.

Manager Kuntz advised city staff, along with a representative from Montgomery County's Development Department, recently met with Green Tokai. Manager Kuntz reported Green Tokai is doing well as a company, and we were able to pass along information to assist them in their hiring needs. One of the topics discussed with them was workforce transportation. Staff subsequently met with representatives from Greater Dayton RTA to discuss this topic as it relates to all our manufacturing and industrial companies including Green Tokai and DMAX. Green Tokai's staff was also very complimentary of Brookville's services, especially the Police and Fire departments.

Manager Kuntz reported the Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Solar Eclipse Watch Party at the Brookville High School on April 8, from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Brookville's Fire and Police Departments are presently working to develop various contingency response plans for the overall solar eclipse event that day.

Manager Kuntz reported City staff is currently working with our website hosting company, Civic Plus, to continue identifying ways Brookville can improve information flow to our residents and businesses and ensure information access is as user friendly as possible. Manager Kuntz advised we are at the beginning stages of this project and expect it to take several months to fully implement.

Manager Kuntz reminded everyone our annual Park Clean-up Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. This is a great opportunity for everyone to get together and kick off Spring. Refreshments will be served at the end of the event.

Manager Kuntz advised over the last two weeks, the Service Department performed the following tasks:

- Plowed and salted streets from the last snowstorm.
- Repaired two dump trucks from breakdowns during snow event.
- Picked up 250 gallons of used oil.
- Replaced two mailboxes that were damaged during snow event.
- Emptied trash from all parks and uptown.
- Continued limb pickup in all parks.
- Pothole patch.
- Installed irrigation controls in the new shed at soccer.
- Repaired door on Diamond 1 concession stand.
- Disposed of 33 tires to transfer station.
- Jetted retention ponds on Arlington Road.

Mayor Letner commented that residents can pick up solar eclipse safety glasses at the Brookville Library. The library is also involved in the Solar Eclipse Watch Party event.

Finance Director Brandt presented the 2024 Garage Sale Map and schedule for Council review and approval.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Wilder to approve the 2024 Garage Sale map and schedule as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Finance Director Brandt reported proposed Ordinance No. 2024-05 is to assess the unpaid mowing bills for 2023 and proposed Ordinance No. 2024-26 is to assess the 2023 unpaid utility bills.

Motion by Fowler, second by Zimmerlin to read proposed Ordinance No. 2024-05. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Wilder to accept the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 2024-05. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Piper to read proposed Ordinance No. 2024-06. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Fowler, second by Schreier to accept the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 2024-06. All yeas, motion carried.

Fire Chief Fletcher reported February was a busy month with 170 calls for service, compared to 145 this time last year. Fire Chief Fletcher reported the Fire Department received a \$10,000 grant MARCS radio grant and a \$1,800 grant reimbursement for fire certification training. The Fire Department also received a donation of carbon monoxide detectors from Firefighter and Company Federal Credit Union. Brookville residents can contact the Fire Department for a no-cost smoke or c/o detector and get help installing it if necessary.

Police Chief Jerome reminded everyone Daylight Savings begins on March 10, 2024.

Police Chief Jerome reported a reminder of our golf cart ordinance and RV/boat parking regulations has been posted on our website. A guide to what can and cannot be placed or parked on the street has also been posted.

Police Chief Jerome advised staff has been attending solar eclipse meetings and are planning ahead to ensure public safety with the possible influx of people into the area.

Law Director Stephan had no report.

Mayor Letner had no report.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Fowler to read proposed Ordinance No. 2024-02. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Wilder, second by Schreier to accept the third reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2024-02 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART 9, TITLE 3, SECTION 935.14(c)(1), FIXING THE USER FEES TO ALL SEWER CUSTOMERS IN THE CITY OF BROOKVILLE, OHIO." All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Piper to read proposed Ordinance No. 2024-03. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Wilder, second by Schreier to accept the third reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2024-03 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PART 9, TITLE 3, SECTION 931.20(a), FIXING THE USER FEES TO ALL WATER CUSTOMERS IN THE CITY OF BROOKVILLE, OHIO." All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Fowler to read proposed Ordinance No. 2024-04. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Piper, second by Wilder to accept the second reading of proposed Ordinance No. 2024-04. All yeas, motion carried.

Member Fowler, Park Board Liaison, reported soccer season is drawing teams and ready to start with approximately 300 children enrolled.

Member Schreier, Planning Commission Liaison, had no report.

Jared Ledford, of 441 Meadow Glen Avenue stated he has a couple of questions and concerns. He has lived in Brookville for about 15 years. He graduated from Brookville, although he lived in Trotwood, he paid tuition and chose to go to Brookville. Mr. Ledford stated he lived on Villa Drive for a long time, then built a house in Brookville, picking Brookville again. He has lived here 15 years, and this is the second time his water has been shut off. He has contacted Invoice Cloud. He is just curious to the Council's comments on that. He checked with the Service Department and heard there was a rather large number of shut-offs scheduled. Mr. Ledford stated he understands things happen. Computers are not perfect, and he is not perfect. He does not know whose fault it was. It could have been his, but he thinks the city would be doing itself a service if they would go out of their way a little bit to stick a post-it note on somebody's door, give a courtesy phone call, or send an email. Mr. Ledford stated he had no notification from Invoice Cloud that his water bill was not paid. It was shut off less than 30 days after the bill was due. From what he gathered from the Service Department, about 5% of the households in Brookville were due to be shut off this past period, meaning something over 100 households were ready to be shut off. Mr. Ledford stated he thinks that is cause for concern that we just send out the Service Department to shut off people's water. What would it cost to see if one of those were broken? What if something happened? How

much time does the city spend going to 100 households when a simple phone call, post-it note, or email would do? Any kind of secondary notice for the community would probably be a benefit. Mr. Ledford stated he knows he is not the only person that had this issue. He gave a big shout out to the people in the city office. He called and although they were very friendly, he was told he did not pay his bill and needed to contact Invoice Cloud. Mr. Ledford stated Invoice Cloud was not a lot of help. His recommendation is to do a cost analysis with another company to see if maybe there is another way that we can pay our bills. Mr. Ledford stated he knows for sure he never opted into a paperless billing system. He never chose that but what he did notice is that when he went to pay the bill, it automatically prompted him to be paperless. Maybe that's a problem as he did not get a paper bill this past period. So that was a concern for him. The other concern he had was related to the continued demolition of Brookville for the proliferation of infrastructure. He personally had about \$1,200 of damage done by Metronet, which was never reclaimed to him by Metronet. Mr. Ledford stated he contacted the City multiple times and was told to contact Metronet. He contacted Metronet and sent bills and pictures, but nothing was ever done for him, even though he had pictures of the guys actually damaging his property. Mr. Ledford stated nothing was ever done for him. The community looks terrible, and we are worried about where boats and cars are parked. Mr. Ledford stated he got a letter one time from the city. He had his truck parked on a parcel next to his home for two days to unload things in his backyard and got a letter, with a picture of his vehicle, from the city. Mr. Ledford stated they have spray painted his driveway and marked up everything in his yard. He knows it is going to get torn up. He can appreciate infrastructure but if this is for more companies to come in to offer internet, he assumes before long we are all going to have wireless internet anyway. Mr. Ledford stated he just wants some comments from Council related to the continued destruction of property. Residents spend a lot of money and choose to live here. As someone who values their yard and their property, he was disappointed by the result that he got from Metronet. Mr. Ledford stated he appreciates Council's time very much.

Mayor Letner thanked Mr. Ledford for his comments and asked Finance Director Brandt to explain how we go about the water shutoffs.

Finance Director Brandt advised if a customer is on paper billing, they get a first notice, then a second notice about the week after the due date. If they are on paperless billing, customers get two emails prior to the due date and then an additional email if they still have not paid their bill. Finance Director Brandt stated there have been some glitches that are out of her control. Invoice Cloud does automatically sign residents up for paperless billing when they check-out, unless they manually opt out of it. Finance Director Brandt advised she reaches out to Invoice Cloud when customers contact her with an issue. The city gives multiple notices prior to the shut-off date and gives customers 45 days to pay the bill prior to shutoff. Finance Director Brandt stated Mr. Ledford is welcome to call the office for his balance. The bills go out the same time, every quarter, so if he has not received it, he is welcome to call the office for the balance.

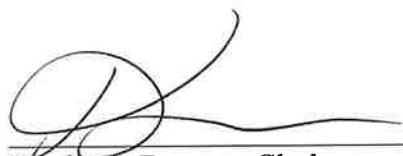
Mr. Leford commented he received no help from Invoice Cloud on this issue. Finance Director Brandt has been great to him, but this is now the second time he has had this discussion. Mr. Ledford commented that he thinks the city would be wise to take a look at Invoice Cloud as their merchant. They are no help on the phone and give absolutely zero support. Mr. Ledford stated he got an invoice notification in his email within ten seconds of paying the bill. He went back through his emails, and he did not have a single notification that his bill had not been paid. Mr. Ledford stated those emails were not there and he is sure he is not the only person. When he called the office, he was told he should come to the Council meeting and talk to Council directly. Mr. Ledford stated the city office has been great and this has no reflection of anybody in this community. It is a reflection of who is outside the walls of this community that we cannot control that. We have apparently very little influence with as far as paperless bills because he and Finance Director Brandt have talked about this before. He does not want paperless bills. His wife paid the last bill, and she probably didn't pay attention. Mr. Ledford stated he will take full responsibility for the fact that the bill wasn't paid, but he did not get 45 days before shut-off. That is for sure.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Schreier to approve the Special Event Permit as presented for the Brookville Community Picnic on July 25, July 26 and July 27, 2024. Wilder yea, Piper yea, Fowler abstained, Zimmerlin yea, Schreier yea, Letner yea. Motion carried with five yeas and one abstention.

Motion by Fowler, second by Zimmerlin to go into Executive Session under Section 122.21(G)(8) to consider confidential information of an applicant for economic development assistance to be administered under Chapter 715 of the Ohio Revised Code. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Fowler, second by Wilder to go back into Regular Session. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Zimmerlin, second by Fowler to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.



Kimberly Duncan, Clerk



Charles Letner, Mayor