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GARY F. WERNER

CITY MANAGER/
SAFETY DIRECTOR
JAMES M. LUKAS

CITY OF BRUNSWICK

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January 13, 2012

Brunswick Residents and Businesses,

Welcome to 2012! Thank you to our church groups, service organizations and community volunteers who dedicated so much of their time and efforts assisting the needy during the Christmas holiday season. Brunswick is truly a great and caring community!

As I approach my one-year anniversary as your City Manager, I would like to express my appreciation to the residents, businesses, community groups and organizations for the assistance that has been provided to me over the past eleven months. I also wish to thank the City employees, members of the Brunswick City Council and Mayor Werner for their support as we continue to work on issues and challenges facing the City.

With a new year upon us, the intent of this quarterly newsletter is to provide you with some information about City operations and projects/issues for the upcoming year.

Love, INC: Love, INC. has announced a new pilot program to assist our senior population who need help with snow removal. Residents may call Love, INC. at 330-460-0046 and leave a message. A volunteer will call back and screen the individual to be sure it is a valid request. If valid, they will dispatch a volunteer. The volunteers are from the various churches in our area. Love, INC. will make the decision if someone will get assistance. This is not a City of Brunswick program and no city dollars are being spent for this program. Thank you to Love, INC. and to Mayor Werner for his assistance in getting this program up and running!

Snow Plow Operators List: If you need to hire a snow removal contractor, the City maintains a list of registered snow plow operators that is available on the website and on the City's cable station. Per City Code, all private snow removal firms and individuals are to register annually prior to removing, pushing or plowing snow from any private or public property located within the City. Registration can be done at City Hall.

AARP Tax Aide: Representatives from the AARP tax service will be utilizing offices at Brunswick City Hall during the upcoming tax season to assist in tax preparation for low-and middle-income residents, with special attention to those individuals age 60 and older, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning in February through mid-April. Appointments can be made by calling 330-225-7100, extension 9514.

National League of Cities Prescription Drug Program: Did you know that Brunswick is one of only 37 cities in Ohio that offers this program? In fact, of the 37 cities, Brunswick is ranked fourth in overall savings to our community, following the cities of Trotwood, Lakewood, and Cleveland. This prescription discount card is available to you and your family when your prescription is not covered by insurance or you don't have health insurance, saving an average of 20 percent off the regular retail price of prescription drugs at participating pharmacies. For more information, call toll-free 1-888-620-1749. Prescription Discount Cards are available at Brunswick City Hall.

Medication Drop Off: The Brunswick Division of Police has started a program for discarding of unused prescription and over-the-counter medications. Drop off can be made inside the lobby at the Division of Police

year-round, 24 hours a day. This area is under constant video surveillance. This program ensures the medication does not end up polluting water sources or in the hands of potential abusers.

Storm Water Utility: With this quarter's refuse bill, you will note that a new charge has been included. This fee is dedicated to storm water management activities in Brunswick. The entire community will share in this process, including homeowners, apartments, businesses, commercial and industrial properties owners, schools and churches. This utility has been discussed for several years. The revenues generated by the Storm Water Fee will be used to offset the debt of approximately \$6 million in storm water system improvements completed over the past decade. It will also be used to maintain the overall storm system and offset costs associated with unfunded federal mandates for storm water control, such as disposal fees mandated by the Ohio EPA. It will eventually be used for future storm water projects, based on the availability of the funds. A storm water fee is not unique to Brunswick – many other cities (e.g., Wadsworth, Broadview Heights, Macedonia) have already established similar fees. More information can be found on the city website.

Road Levy: As you may know, a 20 year road levy request has been placed on the March 2012 ballot for your consideration. Why 20 years? This timeframe was chosen for several reasons: 1) we received many comments indicating voters did not approve of the permanent nature of the last levy; 2) as compared to a shorter timeframe, 20 years will still allow the City to aggressively pursue road improvements via outside financing and grant requests. For example, this will allow us to borrow funds, similar to a home mortgage, to complete more roads in the short-term than we would be able to without borrowing. In addition, just as with a home mortgage, a 20 year levy term will allow for a balanced use of borrowed funds that does not obligate the community beyond the term of the levy or severely diminish the budget available for other projects in the later years of the levy; and 3) the City has two large pending projects (Boston Road and North Carpenter Road Reconstruction) that have been in the planning stages for 10-20 years. Years ago, a significant amount of federal dollars were used (e.g., approximately \$1 million for planning/engineering). Because the projects have not proceeded due to the lack of a City funding source, the federal government has requested that the City repay the federal funds back for Boston Road and will likely soon ask about North Carpenter. They have agreed not to pursue the reimbursement at this time pending the levy result. In order to complete the projects -- and not repay the federal government -- we will need to borrow funds, which the 20-year levy request will allow for.

Code Red: The City will be utilizing the CodeRed emergency alert system again in 2012. When you register your land line or cell phone, you will receive emergency messages generated by the City of Brunswick. You may also elect to receive neighborhood targeted weather alerts from the National Weather Service by selecting that option. Learn more and register for the service on our website at www.brunswick.oh.us.

Solicitors: Door-to-door solicitors are required to register with the City before conducting any sales. The application must be processed by the Brunswick Police Department and approved by the City Manager. If a vendor arrives on your doorstep, you can ask to see their official vendor's permit before conducting any transactions. A listing of registered solicitors is posted on the city website. If you are visited by any unregistered vendors at your home, please contact the Brunswick Division of Police at 330-225-9111.

Parks and Recreation: Congratulations to the Brunswick Community Recreation and Fitness Center on its 20 year anniversary! Over the last three years, the Recreation Center has been recognized both nationally and within the State by winning several awards. Membership drives, creative programming and a new look have generated a significant increase in membership. In 2006, the recreation center had 2,261 members and it now has over 10,000 members. Thank you for your support! The recreation center has been operating without city tax dollars for its operating budget -- this is not common for recreation centers. The center has also received grants for new equipment and to replace all of the light fixtures with energy efficient lights.

Good Neighbor Award: The City has started a program to recognize individuals (neighbors) in the community who go above and beyond. The "Good Neighbor Award" seeks to identify and honor those individuals who embody the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors. This program strives to recognize those who are making a difference in our City and who do not typically seek or receive recognition for their efforts. Nominees must reside or work in the City of Brunswick. More information is on the city website.

Community Groups: The Brunswick American Legion and VFW are in the process of improving Westview Cemetery by selling paver bricks from now until Memorial Day 2012 to help fund a speaker's gazebo and a proper soldier's tomb. More information on purchasing the brick pavers is on the city website or at the American Legion and VFW Posts. The Brunswick Relay For Life 2012 Kick Off is scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2012, at the Recreation Center. For more information, please contact Tom Huff at 330-273-1496 or thuff.relay@gmail.com. Thank you for your efforts!

Upcoming Projects:

Pearl Road Resurfacing - The Pearl Road resurfacing project is scheduled to begin in May. The City has been working cooperatively with District 3 of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to complete planning for the \$1.2 Million project. At this time, the City's anticipated share of this amount is approximately \$150,000. The project will extend from Boston Road to Sleepy Hollow Road and will include repair of deteriorated roadway base areas, removal of the existing asphalt surface and placement of a new asphalt surface. The project is made possible by ODOT's Urban Paving Program which provides federal highway funds to resurface state routes within municipalities. The remainder of the project funding package includes an Issue 1 grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission and local funds. The project is expected to be completed by early August.

Citywide Signalization - An upgrade of the traffic signals and control systems throughout the City will be commencing in 2012. The project includes the installation of new energy efficient signal heads, mast arm poles, control panels, fiber optic communication lines and a central control system in Police Dispatch. The system will provide more consistent and efficient traffic controls that can be customized to address changing traffic patterns and special events. The project also includes the installation of handicap curb ramps at signalized intersections that do not already have them. The project is expected to start in July and take approximately one year to complete. The estimated total cost of construction was \$4,673,000 with the City share being \$935,000 of that. The federal share is made available through NOACA via a Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) grant program from the Federal Highway Administration.

Hadcock Road - The City has been awarded a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the reconstruction of an additional portion of Hadcock Road. The grant, which represents approximately 90% of the construction cost, is made available through the Issue 1 infrastructure program. The project will extend from Ruth to Walters Drives. The project is scheduled for construction in the late summer of 2012.

Brunswick Lake Trail - The Brunswick Lake Fitness Trail is planned to be one mile in length and will be a complete "loop path" around Brunswick Lake, past the Nature Center, through the Nature Preserve and will contain two bridge crossings. The trail will be constructed through a partnership between the City and the Medina County Park District. The city portion is estimated at \$98,625, utilizing land sale monies from Town Center in accordance with various development agreements. This does not involve any city tax dollars. The total cost estimate is \$341,000 for the project.

Brunswick Lake Amphitheater - The Brunswick Lake Amphitheater is a stage construction project that has been proposed for many years. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2012. James Justice, owner of Justice & Company (2462 Pearl Road), has offered to build this project utilizing his artistic creativity. The stage will allow

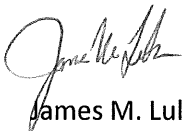
for social gatherings for concerts, plays, chili-cook-offs, and much more. This will truly become a destination area for all to come and enjoy Brunswick Lake Park. Thank you Mr. Justice for your assistance!

Concord Meadows - The City is continuing to work on the environmental permitting and engineering design of a slate of projects to improve water quality and flood protection in and around the North Park & Concord Meadows area. The work is being facilitated by a \$1 million Congressional appropriation and \$333,000 of local funds and is being administered by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Upcoming projects in 2012 include the reconstruction of the detention basin just west of Fire Station No. 2 and modifications to the west bank and overflow structure of North Park Lake. The administration is also working with City Council to finalize the scope and routing of a by-pass storm sewer around or within Concord Meadows. Additional information and opportunity for public input on that project will be forthcoming in the near future.

As you may know, the City has implemented significant cost savings measures, including staff cutbacks. When you contact City Hall, you will be directed to an automated phone system. This was implemented once the full-time receptionist retired a year or so ago. We have heard that some of our callers are unclear about their options for contacting one of the City departments through the general telephone number. Therefore, we are providing a listing of direct dial phone numbers as a way to bypass the prompts (see below).

I hope that you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 330-558-6826 or email me at jlukas@brunswick.oh.us. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



James M. Lukas
City Manager/Safety Director

CITY OF BRUNSWICK DIRECT DIAL NUMBERS

In an emergency Dial 911

City of Brunswick Main Number 330-225-9144

330-558-6860	Administrative Services	330-558-6885	Law Department and Prosecutor
330-220-1726	Brunswick Area Television	330-558-6870	Mayor's Court
330-225-7100 Ext. 9670	BTA	330-273-8000	Parks
330-558-6830	Building - Permits & Inspection	330-225-9111	Police Non Emergency
330-558-6845	City Council and Mayor's Office	330-273-8000	Recreation Center
330-558-6826	City Manager's Office	330-558-6825	Refuse Billing
330-558-6805	Civil Service	330-558-6804	Refuse Pick Up
330-558-6865	Development and Planning	330-558-6804	Service and Streets
330-558-6875	Economic Development	330-558-6830	Storm Water Non-billing information
330-558-6880	Engineering	330-558-6825	Storm Water Billing
330-558-6810	Finance	330-558-6815	Tax
330-225-2780	Fire - Non Emergency	330-558-6866	Service Department Information