

**Call to Order**

The Regular Session of Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Erwin. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Roll Call was completed by Clerk of Council. The following members were present.

Mike McKeehan – P

Judy Neal – P

Terry Erwin– P

William Thompson – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

Paul Zorn – A

**Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Council reviewed the minutes of previous meetings. Motion by Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the minutes of the September meeting with necessary correction; second by Councilman McKeehan. All ye.

**Committee Reports from Village Officials**

Police Committee – Councilwoman Neal reported the department is doing well per Chief Kilburn.

Neal also advised October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Neal stated she had two meetings with the local food pantry directors. Currently, the pantry is feeding 1000 per month; yet, the organization expressed it did not feel they were reaching everyone in need. She reported she advised the group the Village Administrator would include information in the E-Newsletter which has expanded readership. Neal discussed transportation needs within the Village. Mayor Erwin discussed current transportation available with a fee, the bus at \$3 per one-way trip. Neal expressed concern. She also spoke of the lack of a grocery in Morrow. The Mayor stated the grocery would open early in 2013 and asked what options Neal suggested for transportation. He stated it was a good idea to contact the County transportation officers. Solicitor Oda suggested the Village pay the cost of transit once per month. Discussion followed. The Mayor asked Neal to spearhead the issue and look into the matter further.

Mayor Erwin stated the Village was able to provide food assistance for those in the community who made a request this year. He advised Mr. Ducker, President of the UAW submitted a check for \$100 for the Morrow Schuerer Relief Fund. The Mayor and Council thanked Ducker and the union for the donation.

Isaacs-Niemesh suggested Neal work through the schools for added help with food pantry. She inquired about the collapsed pipe discussed by McKeehan in September. McKeehan advised he checked the area and none was found. Isaacs-Niemesh asked about the new Village sign. The Mayor advised the Administrator was working on it and looking into costs as well as checking on the zoning to see if a digital sign was permitted.

Beautification Committee – Councilman Thompson reported the committee spent their flower funds, with the exception of \$30, to purchase mums which were planted on the bridge by the Morrow Church of the Nazarene. He stated they were working on the mural at Carl Burn's. Three colors are present now, colors will be enhanced. Thompson advised he had photographs of long-time residents to be added to the mural.

Mayor Erwin discussed Western Water and the failures the Village water plant experienced in recent weeks. He advised the necessary repairs were made to the system. He also stated Western Water experienced a failure and was down two weeks prior. The Mayor acknowledged if the Village had an agreement with Western Water at that time, water may have been purchased from Morrow rather than Cincinnati. He discussed Cincinnati Water Works. Mayor Erwin advised he spoke with the Environmental

Protection Agency; he reiterated Morrow would like to maintain its system. He called for dialogue from Council regarding Western Water. He stated he'd like to bring the third well on line in the future. His concern was if the well field and water become contaminated, Morrow will have a problem.

Isaacs-Niemesh stated she felt action was needed as long as we will be selling and not buying water. She added our water plant is very old. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if there was any cost to the Village. The Mayor responded no and advised Western Water had a master metering valve and would pay any necessary costs. Neal asked if there were any downsides. The Mayor stated we will sell a good deal of water to Western water; water is an Enterprise Fund. Mayor Erwin advised he believed there is an opportunity, perhaps \$12,000 to \$30,000. McKeehan expressed he felt it was a good idea and a back-up with no cost to the Village. He wanted to be assured that a contract is drawn up to protect the Village legally, stating who has authority to open the valve in the future. Discussion followed. Neal stated money is needed to bring the third well on line. Thompson stated he has heard the horror stories; he referred to scorched earth policy. Thompson stated any agreement must be iron clad. He stated the web shows numerous attorneys listed for Western Water. Oda advised the Village ask Western Water to send a proposal and review pro and cons at that time. The Mayor asked for a consensus to get the conversation going. All yea.

Mayor Erwin stated the Village needs to replace the dump truck. When the next vehicle is needed in the future, capital improvement funds will be in the bank. McKeehan asked if ball joints were installed on the truck in question recently. Mayor Erwin stated a lot of work has been done on the truck; it is worth approximately \$5,000. The Mayor stated the cost of a new dump truck was \$55,000 with a snow plow, etc. Fiscal Officer, Kathie Koehler advised \$41,279 was available for a down payment and only be necessary to borrow \$13,670 from the bank. Neal asked for clarification on the fund, water or a set aside for vehicles. Isaacs-Niemesh asked what was in the Water Fund. Koehler responded \$600,000 in the Water and Operating Fund. Isaacs-Niemesh asked who the bid was from and if it was a State bid. Oda advised the Village was not required to use the State bid. If it did not, Village officials must do their own comparables and determine if it was the best option over the State bid. Koehler talked about funds, semi-annual payments and long term status. Isaacs-Niemesh asked the Mayor if the Village was in the shape to do this. She also asked about the pick-up truck and how the second truck was used. The Mayor said currently is has a variety of uses; the Administrator utilizes the truck. He stated we are looking into making it an emergency response vehicle. The Village is now in the black. Councilman Terry Erwin stated a tap-in from Western Water would pay for this in the future.

Oda stated an Ordinance has been read in title only and will require three readings if not passed on an emergency basis. Thompson asked about emergency status on the need for a truck. He listed other committees who may have acted before winter approached making it necessary for passing on an emergency basis. The Mayor stated it was previously discussed. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if both trucks had a plow. The Mayor responded yes. Neal asked how long it would take to acquire the truck; the Mayor responded 6 to 8 weeks.

Motion by Neal to waive the remaining readings of Ordinance #18-12; second by T. Erwin. Four yea, one nay by Thompson. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to approve Ordinance #18-12, to purchase a new dump truck; second by T. Erwin. Four yea, one nay by Thompson; motion carried.

**Ordinances/Resolutions**

Oda advised Resolutions were required to increase and decrease appropriations line items. Fiscal Officer Koehler advised \$500 must be moved for roof repairs at Thornton

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Park for the insurance deductible. Appropriations must be increased for insurance money received. An increase in the General appropriations of \$5887.19 was needed. Discussion followed.

Motion by Terry Erwin to suspend the rules and waive the three readings for Resolution #16-12; second by Neal. All yea. Motion by Erwin to adopt Resolution #16-12, making adjustments to line items in the appropriations and declaring an emergency; second by Neal. All yea.

**Approval of Disbursements**

Fiscal Officer Kathy Koehler distributed Village disbursements to Council members and three Schuerer Relief Applications. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to pay the bills; second by McKeehan. All yea. Motion by T. Erwin to approve Schuerer Trust Fund application; second by Neal. All yea.

**Committee Reports from Village Officials Cont'd**

Chief Heath Kilburn advised the case involving the Lexus housed in the Municipal garage went to court and the Judge ruled; the owner paid the Village \$4,000 for the vehicle.

**Public Forum**

The Administrator, Ramona Stapleton and Admissions Director, Lori Nicely from Pinehurst Nursing Home introduced themselves. The Mayor discussed the improvements made and the quality of care provided at the facility. The Mayor advised them Council would be supportive. Neal commented on her father's rehabilitation care. The director stated she also managed the facility in Hillsboro. The Admissions Director advised they wanted to be more involved in the community; they are preparing the turkey and volunteering to work during the community Christmas dinner.

Mr. Ducker asked about the improvements on Highlawn and Houston Street. The Mayor clarified Warren County was funding the project and advised it would likely be Spring when the work was done. He advised Welsh Road was a separate project.

Motion by Erwin to go into Executive Session at 6:50pm; second by Thompson. All yea. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to return to Regular Session; second by Neal at 7:12pm. All yea.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adjourn; second by Erwin. All yea.

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Kathie Koehler, Fiscal Officer

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Mike Erwin, Mayor