

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 – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of previous meetings. Motion by Councilwoman Neal to approve the minutes of the Special December Meeting and the January Regular Session; second by Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea.

Shawn Campbell / Jones Warner Engineering

Campbell reported when the Welch Road Project was proposed 3 ½ years ago to address drainage issues and pavement, no action was taken to address the water main. Since that time a decision has been made to replace the water main. Campbell advised, to add the water main to the project, Jones Warner must amend our contract for the design. He stated old transite pipe is there now. The roller that goes with the pipe will fail and break; it should be replaced. The original estimate was to go to Pattison, now we will get closer to the school. The Mayor asked how many feet would remain. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if the project could get to the school. Campbell responded it may be 20' to 50' away from the school driveway. He stated low unit cost will allow us to go further. Based on the cost we are seeing, we will be able to go beyond Pattison; Campbell advised high-end pipe, plastic AWA approved pipe is cheaper than ductal iron pipe. He stated it will be necessary to do additional survey work; we are designing to the school.

The Mayor stated lateral will be pulled in. Shawn Campbell stated Highlawn would be done this year. He advised a new stretch of water main would allow the Village to do additional road work without a problem. Mayor Erwin advised this is a complete upgrade. Councilman McKeehan questioned the size of the pipe. Campbell responded it would be 6". He stated had good information on plant rehab costs and would share it at a later meeting. Discussion followed. Campbell stated Welch Road was the issue that required action at present and engineering costs should be amended by \$9,750. Village Administrator Rod Smith stated it should have been included 3 ½ years ago. Solicitor Kaspar advised an Ordinance was needed to amend the Welch Road Project Phase I.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #2-13; second by Councilman Erwin. All yea. Motion by Neal to approve Ordinance #2-13, amend the Welch Road Project Phase I; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion carried.

Shawn Campbell stated work on Highlawn would start in April. Welch Road would start the latter part of July and take most of the Summer. Grants become available July 1. The Mayor advised this will help the water situation; the curb will dress it up real nice.

Committee Reports from Village Officials

Isaacs-Niemesh discussed the employee salary increases in the appropriations budget and advised the Clerk of Council was not included. She asked if the raise could be extended to her. McKeehan stated he was under the impression the increase was inclusive also. The Mayor advised she was a contractual employee; he asked what rate was being considered. The Administrator stated 3.69 was discussed for employees. Kaspar suggested Executive Session would be best to continue the discussion.

Parks Committee – Erwin reported Rod Smith ordered swing seats for Phegley Park provided by Duke Energy and thanked him for taking care of it.

Neighborhood Watch – Councilman Zorn advised the Neighborhood Watch meeting for February was postponed and the next meeting was scheduled for March 7, 2013. He discussed the Flag Contest, banner and judging. Zorn proposed the Village use the two best entries and merge them. He stated the announcement would be tabled. Smith advised he was waiting on two judging forms and was using a point basis for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Smith stated he felt it should be a fun project and Council should be comfortable. He stated all entries were in and some were amazing.

Zorn thanked Smith for handling the project. He advised he sat in at first Chamber of Commerce meeting that Smith attended and noted he did quite well. Councilman Thompson advised he would take a digital photo of the entries. Rod Smith stated the entries were made from several venues to include the retirement community, career center library and schools; he advised he would share the correspondence with Council.

Zorn advised he received complaints about the Fire Lane and parking at the shopping mall. He spoke with postal employees. Zorn stated signage should be larger. He spoke with Chief Kilburn. Businesses are open late and no lighting is present. Businesses who operate at night should have proper lighting. Chief Kilburn stated it needs updating; some businesses were parking there. He stated he would contact Marcus and get it resolved. Heath Kilburn stated handicap signs need to be replaced. Chief advised he repaired the lights. The Mayor stated the timing is not set for Daylight Saving Time. Mayor Erwin advised he would meet with the business group on Thursday.

Councilman McKeehan reported Subway is coming along great. He asked the Administrator about the two-sided sign. Smith advised it should be in by the end of the week; it will be two-sided and the lettering can be changed. The Mayor said we should fix the pieces of glass. McKeehan posed a question concerning the fire hydrant that was hit. Rod stated it was not leaking. The Mayor advised the Village is having it replaced. McKeehan asked about the trees previously discussed. Smith previously advised Warren County they should be taken down; Warren County plans to take them down by Spring.

McKeehan stated he saw a copy of a recent newsletter written by Thompson and he had an issue with the wording. He stated he did not want something said that wasn't true. McKeehan advised there was a vote in 2011 and 2012 for Vice-Mayor and provided the minutes. Former Councilman Poe stated it was a split decision and he was the deciding vote for McKeehan as Vice Mayor. Thompson said he would correct the information. The Mayor stated he found other inaccurate information in the material. Thompson stated he would address a specific item brought to his attention.

Neal stated the lighting at the shopping center was very dark and she spoke with the Angeloes. She stated she was excited about the presence of a Historical Society in Morrow; Rod Smith is searching for space to house it. The Mayor advised he has a scale model of the Municipal Building and it could be on display.

Beautification Committee – Thompson discussed Blackhawk Road; he reviewed the PUD. The Mayor stated there is not an escrow account. When homes were built, there was a bond. A bike trail was to be built there; the Mayor stated he would review files.

Rod Smith advised the Warren County Department of Emergency Services requested a Resolution of support, appointing Pat Clements as Municipal Rep. to 911 Committee.

Motion by Zorn to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #3-13; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion by Zorn to adopt Resolution #3-13, approving

support for appointment of 911 Committee member by Warren County Department of Emergency Services; second by Erwin. All yea.

Smith provided a report for Council members. He discussed the Warren County Regional Planning Commission and the Citizen's Advisory Committee for the Comprehensive Plan for the Village. He provided names of members for the sub committees and the dates and times for upcoming meetings for the committees, February 20th at 6:30pm for Downtown, Economic Development and Infrastructure and February 27th at 6:30pm for Neighborhoods and Quality of Life. He stated he wished to keep the meetings constructive and would provide more information. The goal is the most livable community in Warren County; he thanked everyone for attending the Capstone Project Meeting on January 30, 2013. Smith reported nearly sixty people attended.

The Administrator advised he is continuing to address the Village Personnel Policy Manual and will review the document with the Solicitor upon completion. He thanked Terry Erwin, the Parks Committee and maintenance department for hard work. He also thanked Zorn for his work on Neighborhood Watch because it was very important. He made upcoming birthday announcements for Village Financial Advisor Steve Wagner, Mike Hannah, Bonnie Campbell, and Terry Erwin.

Thompson advised the Thornton Park gate has been open every time he has driven by the park. He thanked the Police Department.

Chief Kilburn advised he submitted a report to the Administrator. He discussed the department accomplishments. Kilburn advised warrants were a problem; there are issues and he plans to meet with the Mayor. He stated he has been called out more hours of the night. The Mayor stated the Village has been lenient and some individuals owe for 6, 7 or 8 years. He advised they are put in jail; some are in State prison and offenses should be cleaned out and aged out. He stated Highway Patrol holds the offender within 100 miles of Morrow and Morrow Police must respond. A new system will be put in place. Smith stated there must be a better way. The Mayor stated the situation is not unique; he has discussed it with the prosecutor.

Mr. Ducker stated one gentleman who is paying off a fine with community service did a good job cleaning the areas of Pike Street and Welch Road over the last few weeks. He commended the gentleman for doing a good job for the Village. Rod Smith stated the Magistrate grants community service in certain situations.

Mayor Erwin gave the assignments for committees for 2013; he credited Isaacs-Niemesh with the idea of fewer committees and the method of assignment. The committees are:

- Finance - Mayor Erwin (Chairman), McKeehan, Zorn
- Public Works - Isaacs Niemesh (Chairman), Neal, T. Erwin
- Police - McKeehan (Chairman), Thompson, Zorn

The Mayor reported there was a catastrophic water emergency since the January meeting. The cost per Fiscal Officer Koehler was \$9,068. Costs could be \$2Million to redo the plant. The system has not been upgraded since 1945 the Mayor reported; failure with the system is a quality issue. He requested a meeting. He stated major repairs may be made over several years, possibly spending \$200K to \$300K. He advised the officials would pursue grants. He stated no one wants rates increased; dollars should be accumulated for repairs. Rate increases should be incremental. Discussion followed. The Mayor stated the men are working hard to fix the problem, also Jones Warner. He asked Council to discuss rate increases. He advised EPA stated the Village is sitting on best aquifer on river corridor. Isaacs-Niemesh stated you can't make up for 13 years plus at once. We should take the economy into effect. She asked what was in the Water Fund currently. Koehler advised \$650,000. The Administrator stated he did not think Council had enough

information in front of them to have a rate discussion. He suggested prolonging the water plant rebuild to do a rate study and use grants rather than a quick fix.

Mayor Erwin advised a study was done three years prior with no action. He stated rates needed to be looked at now. Isaacs-Niemesh advised in the last 13 years, 50 cents in increases was approved. All agreed the rates were a bargain. Thompson stated we would feel badly if Western Water was buying our water at current rates and selling it at theirs.

Ordinances/Resolutions

Koehler advised Council revenue statistics would be available in their mailboxes and listed several housekeeping appropriations adjustments required. She discussed arrest warrants, advising auxiliary cops could be utilized at a lesser cost of \$50 per pick up for approximately 12 times per year. Isaacs-Niemesh stated table it. Discussion followed.

Motion by Zorn to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #3-13; second by Neal. All yea. Motion by Zorn to adopt Ordinance #3-13, approving adjustment in Contractual and increase in Police Fund by \$724; second by Erwin. All yea.

Koehler stated the new Magistrate thought he was getting Ohio Public Employees Retirement. The Mayor advised it would be discussed in Executive Session. The Fiscal Officer advised an increase in appropriations for engineering in Street Fund by \$3,000 and Land and Building for \$29,450 for Welch Road engineering.

Motion by T. Erwin to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #4-13; second by Neal. All yea. Motion by Erwin to adopt Resolution #4-13, approving increase in appropriations for engineering; second by Neal. All yea. Motion carried.

Approval of Disbursements

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to pay the bills submitted; second by Erwin. All yea.

Koehler submitted five Schuerer Relief Applications for review.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Erwin to approve the applications. All yea.

Public Forum – No comments

The Mayor suggested planting low growing ground cover on the hill at Welch Road such as English Ivy. He stated it was in ROW.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to return to Regular Session; second by Erwin. All yea.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #4-13; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Ordinance #4-13, approving 3.6% pay increase for Clerk of Council; second by Erwin. All yea.

Motion by Erwin to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #5-13; second by Zorn. Five yea, one nay by Thompson. Motion by Erwin to adopt Resolution #5-13, approving increase in appropriations for Mayor’s Court by \$544 and Department Personnel and Benefits by \$4,744 and decrease Contractual by \$3,850 for new Mayor’s Court Magistrate; second by Zorn. Five yea, one nay by Thompson. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Erwin to adjourn; second by Zorn. All yea.

Kathie Koehler, Fiscal Officer

Mike Erwin, Mayor