

**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 the previous meeting. Motion by Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the minutes of the August Meeting; second by Councilwoman Neal. All yea.

**Committee Reports/Legislation from Village Officials**

Parks Committee – Councilman Erwin reported a Catfish Tournament/Split Pot was planned at the Point for September 28th; the first festival, Christmas on Main Street with carriage rides, carols and Santa Claus, is planned as a family event for November 30, 2013. The Mayor stated the Chamber is involved with the project. Councilman Thompson asked if prizes would be given for the Catfish Tournament. Erwin advised the winner would get a portion of the proceeds and the remainder would go to Parks & Recreation.

Police Committee – No Report/Legislation

Public Works Committee – No Report/Legislation.

Administrator Smith advised the Zoning Inspector reported there is not a *Conditional Use* fee on the Fee Schedule. Smith stated he contacted several areas and the general amount is \$350. The Mayor asked him to expound on *Conditional Use*. The Administrator provided an explanation and example. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if the fee was for existing businesses. Smith explained. He stated the fee schedule printed in 2012 did not include *Conditional Use Fee*. T. Erwin explained *Conditional Use* is on the books. Councilman McKeehan added an illustration and question if an Ordinance was needed. Isaacs-Niemesh questioned the charge. Solicitor Kaspar provided the reading for the Ordinance, amending the Village Zoning Fee Schedule. Thompson called for a *Point of Order*, questioning if discussion on the motion was completed. He stated due diligence was not done initially when the Fee Schedule was approved previously.

Motion by McKeehan to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #8-13; second by Erwin. Five yea, one nay by Thompson. Motion by Erwin to adopt Ordinance #8-13, to amend the Zoning Fee Schedule; second by Neal. All yea. Motion carried.

The Administrator advised a Comprehensive Plan Community Open House meeting was planned for October 10, 2013 with a slide show and citizen’s advisory committee report at the Depot. Smith also reported Judy Neal would lead the first Veteran’s Memorial committee meeting; he stated adequate funding is needed for the project. He advised Wolfe’s Market is under new ownership and suggested the community meet the new owners. Smith reiterated events on September 28th and November 30<sup>th</sup> slated for Christmas on Main Street.

Smith discussed the utilization of Community Service Workers and advised he’d received positive comments from citizens. In an effort to save money, he reported the Village has begun using Community Tool Bank to rent tools free and it is a wonderful asset.

Regarding the Assessment of Property Taxes, Smith advised he delivered request to access \$5,000 for delinquent fees to the Auditor's Office which was pleased we acted upon them. He also addressed Surplus Property and stated the vehicles in the Municipal Building parking lot needed to be sold along with other items. He asked that a Resolution be approved for that purpose. Isaacs-Niemesh asked how the Village was in possession of the vehicles and the Mayor stated one was a drug vehicle the Courts awarded to the Village. Smith advised the trailer had not been used or moved in four years. Thompson questioned why a Resolution was needed to sell items currently. Smith responded. He added the sale might bring in as much as \$10,000. Solicitor Kaspar gave the first reading for the Resolution, declaring surplus property and approving auction of the surplus property.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #24-13; second by Councilman Zorn. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #24-13, declaring surplus property and approving auction of surplus property; second by Zorn. All yea. Motion Carried.

Smith advised the Ohio Emergency Management Agency Flood Mitigation is offering assistance via a grant. The federal grant application is due by 8pm on Thursday; Warren County will help with the package. He explained it provided funds for the Village to purchase/construct above flood plain, to help local government relocate out of a flood plain to ensure records, etc. are not damaged. Lebanon is also applying. The Mayor asked if there was a match requirement. Smith responded there is no local match requirement. The Mayor asked Council for comments. Neal asked if the funds could be used for the Water Plant. Councilman Zorn asked if this was FEMA. Smith responded yes. Thompson stated he was in agreement. Kaspar provided the Resolution language, authorizing application for flood assistance.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #25-13; second by Zorn. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #25-13, authorizing application for flood assistance; second by Zorn. All yea. Motion Carried.

The Administrator referenced attachments included in the report packet provided to Council, recent press coverage for Patriots Day Celebration in Dayton Daily News and Farmer's Market in the Pulse Journal. The Mayor stated there was another article regarding the Historical Society.

Zorn presented an award to Chief Kilburn for service to the community. He cited helpful, generous service beyond his regular duties. The award from Morrow Masonic Lodge Civic Center read In Recognition of Outstanding Contribution to the Community. Isaacs-Niemesh stated she did not believe the Western Water issue was tabled. Smith advised he forwarded paperwork to them and we are waiting on Western Water's Board for a response. Smith stated he recently put a call into the director. The Mayor asked how long it had been since we heard from them. Rod Smith responded it had been months. Isaacs-Niemesh asked for details on the construction project underway. Mayor Erwin stated it included reclamation, water line drainage and repair, adding curbs along Pattison. She asked for the timeline. The Mayor responded he was initially quoted approximately six weeks. Smith commented on the timeline.

McKeehan stated Rozanna Ellis emailed him about the project because mature trees were removed around her property. Smith clarified why they were removed. The Mayor advised the contractors talked to Ms. Ellis. Smith stated he spoke with her, also Warren County and the engineer. Smith stated in order to replace the water lines and fire hydrants it was necessary to remove the trees. Isaac-Niemesh asked if they would be replaced. Smith stated not 30' trees. The Mayor commented the line of sight was a problem. The Mayor added the trees were in the right-of-way and never should have been allowed to grow that large; there would be English Ivy planted around the corner.

He stated he offered Burning Bush plantings, she said no; he then offered Blue Spruce on the hillside. The vegetation will be replaced. Mayor Erwin stated we were trying to beautify the neighborhood; we removed weeds and a few Box Elders. Smith stated the schools have commented positively. Discussion followed. Smith advised he along with Kilburn will meet with the school administrators. Kilburn commented there was an improvement for traffic in the area. Thompson commented on the timing of the project with schools in session. Discussion followed. McKeehan advised why he brought the situation forward and stated the finished product would be nice.

**Public Forum**

Chris Hostetter of Welch Road discussed the plan to move the fire hydrant in front of his home. He asked that it not be directly in the middle of his property. Rod Smith stated he spoke with the engineer about it. Discussion followed. The Mayor stated it could be modified. The Administrator stated he would follow up on it.

John Poe stated the Montessori School was in Morrow today; the students and instructors have been coming to his ice cream shop for ten years. Today, the instructors asked what is going on in Morrow. They stated it was positive, property improvements in the community.

Dick Viox, who know resides in Florida, stated he installed a lot of the water lines initially in Morrow; he stated there has always been a major problem with water that comes off the Township around Dresden, on the north end of First Street water goes into the garages. He gave history on changes as to the flow of the water. He stated the County Engineer could determine how much water and what size retaining pond was needed at the foot of the hill to reduce flooding, an 8” pipe would work well or a ditch through the right-of-way around First Street. He suggested an alternative which involved a ditch with a lot of excavating to eliminate the problem. The Mayor thanked him for his wisdom and stated it was a pleasure he stopped in and attended the meeting.

Thompson added he went to the Board of Elections meeting where certifications were reviewed, separating out the clerical errors; there were lengthy discussions on petitions. He stated he was impressed.

**Ordinances/Resolutions**

Fiscal Officer Kathie Koehler advised a Resolution was necessary to accept Budget Commission rates. Kaspar provided language for the Resolution, accepting amounts/rates as determined by Budget Committee and certifying same to County Auditor. Isaacs-Niemesh asked for the numbers. Koehler referred the printed report packet provided. Thompson posed a question regarding Budget Commission rates. Koehler stated they were unchanged for the last four years.

Motion by Erwin to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #26-13; second by Councilman Neal. All yea. Motion by Erwin to adopt Resolution #26-13, accepting amounts/rates determined by Budget Commission and certifying to County Auditor; second by Neal. All yea. Motion Carried.

She also stated a Resolution was needed for the principle for the cruiser for 24 cent. Discussion followed. Koehler asked if electric would be installed in the park restrooms. She stated \$900 increase was needed to get through the year. Kaspar gave the first reading, approving an increase in General Fund by \$900.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #27-13; second by Councilman McKeehan. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #27-13, approving an increase in General Fund by \$900; second by McKeehan. All yea. Motion Carried.

**Approval of Disbursements**

Revenue statistics and disbursements were provided. The Mayor stated the health of the Village Budget is up over \$4,500.

Motion by Erwin to pay the bills; second by Neal. All yea.

The Mayor requested entering into Executive Session with possible action thereafter.

Motion by Zorn at 6:58pm to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters; second by T. Erwin. All yea. Motion by Erwin to return to Regular Session; second by Neal. All yea.

Mayor Erwin asked Council if they wished to act. A question was posed by Isaacs-Niemesh to the Fiscal Officer regarding an increase of \$2,000 for Smith and a reduction in the health insurance premium currently paid by the Village Administrator. She stated Smith pays \$6,000 a year now for health insurance; she asked where it would position the Village if the change requested was approved due to the fact we are currently paying a Water Operator. Koehler provided information on distribution of funds if Village pays the additional amount. Isaacs-Niemesh advised Smith stated he would try to get a Water Operator license; she felt he should get the Water Operator license. Koehler stated Smith makes more the Ward did, but improvements are being made on his watch. T. Erwin stated Smith is paying more insurance than other employees; he is asking to be more in line with what others pay. Koehler stated the money is there. Thompson stated he remembered the initial employment discussion; he felt the Village got Smith somewhat cheaply initially based on his qualifications; also, if Hannah passes the Water Operator test, it would be a moot point. Thompson advised he didn't have a problem with renegotiating. Isaacs-Niemesh asked do we give a contract or which way do we go? The Mayor stated it could be structured either way. He felt the matter could be taken care of currently; a contract could be done later if Council desires. Neal stated the Water Operator License should not be contingent. Discussion followed. Thompson stated he agreed with the Mayor. Kaspar provided the reading for the Resolution.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #28-13; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #28-13, approving a pay increase for the Village Administrator plus insurance of 10% effective July 29, 2013 employment anniversary date; second by Erwin. All yea by roll call. Motion Carried.

**Adjournment**

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

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Kathie Koehler, Fiscal Officer

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Mike Erwin, Mayor