

Regular Session of Village Council

December 9, 2014

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 the Mayor. The following members were present.

Judy Neal – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

York Bryant – P

John Poe – P

Terry Erwin – P

William Thompson – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion by Councilman Erwin to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2014 Regular Session; second by Councilwoman Neal. All ye.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Village Administrator Smith reported Warren County approved a minor subdivision, a combination of three lots to one larger lot to allow expansion of the owner's business. This will go before the Zoning Inspector and the Planning Commission. He referred Council to his monthly report. Smith advised the Tree Board submitted an application to Tree City USA and acknowledged the hard work of the Tree Board. He reported approximately fifty people attended the Veteran's Day Memorial Dedication Ceremony. The Administrator thanked Matt Dethrig for a great job as keynote speaker, thanking everyone who made it possible. He acknowledged Councilwoman Judy Neal chaired the commission and noted commission members and contributors listed in his report, Mike Hannah, Cindy Wilmot, Rod Smith, Paul Zorn and Dennis Gilbert for their labor, Police Chief Kilburn for his labor and equipment for the project, Fred Petrie for electrical, Marlene DeBoard and Warren County Antique Machinery Group for donations, Riverside Stock Farm Topsoil for top soil, Carl Oeder & Sons Sand & Gravel for sand and gravel, Warren County Veterans Services Commission for flagpoles, flags and grave markers and Warren County Parks for sod.

The Village Administrator reported two new auxiliary officers were hired, Joel Warshaw, a former Marine Fighter Pilot, graduate of US Naval Academy and Silver Star recipient and Anthony Woolery. He noted the Police Report summary and the Mayor's Court Report was included with his report to Council. Smith also reported the Treatment Plant Operator was replaced with John Ware, a Class 3 Water Supply Operator whose contract was effective December 1, 2014. The Administrator also reported Phegley Park restrooms would close for the Winter. He discussed the Public Works Department and the November 17, 2014 Winter Storm, stating Mike Hanna did a tremendous job. He referred to his report listing maintenance projects, plowing, pot holes, etc. and applauded Hanna for his efforts.

With regard to Special Dates, the Administrator noted the upcoming 8th Annual Morrow Community Christmas Dinner from 11am to 5pm hosted by Morrow to Morrow. Bryant urged everyone to attend. He acknowledged anniversary dates for Solicitor John Kaspar, 2nd Year, Prosecutor Amy Trainter, 3rd year and Magistrate Rob Kaufman, 2nd Year. He concluded his report by noting the Annual Small Business Alliance Report was attached; he stated Morrow was a member and business counseling and other services are provided by the alliance.

Mayor Erwin reported progress on the Water Plant rebuild. He advised he met with Monroe and had been in negotiation with them. They went on line with Butler County. Monroe's equipment is available and they are willing to give Morrow their Water Plant. We are determining which pieces we want. There is a cost to move it, but we will get the pieces free. They should work for twenty years and save the Village money; we plan to add softening also the Mayor added. Councilman Thompson asked if it would need to be reworked and assembled and if the condition was good. The Mayor stated engineering

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firm was looking into it. Mayor Erwin stated he will present a financial plan for the plant in the near future.

Chief Heath Kilburn recognized Auxiliary Officer Mark Kauffman for his participation in *Shop with a Cop*. The Mayor reiterated Kauffman was a good guy, always willing to help. Kaspar stated Executive Session would be needed. Neal reported seventy-five pavers were ordered for the Veteran's Memorial Park and acknowledged she was pleased with the good turnout. She thanked Parks Board for Christmas on Main and the Historic Society for providing the plug-ins for Veterans Memorial. Neal stated she was looking forward to Memorial Day. Bryant asked for clarification on the purchase of individual brick pavers. Neal responded. Police Chief Kilburn thanked Bryant for the question because many people inquired. The Mayor also thanked Kilburn for getting the poles up at the Veterans Memorial; he stated he was impressed with them. Kilburn stated he was honored to do so.

Ordinances/Resolutions

Fiscal Officer Kathie Koehler distributed one Schuerer Trust Fund application for review. The Mayor stated the Appropriations Budget needed to be tweaked; another meeting would be held during the month. Koehler requested a Resolution to increase line 725 for Sick Leave to 138 hours. Thompson asked for clarification. She stated due to her retirement, one fourth of the unused hours were calculated to be paid upon retirement. She also stated an increase for \$7500 was needed for reimbursement for the shed that was demolished. Bryant asked who was being reimbursed. Administrator Smith stated in May of 2013, four properties were to be torn down. Three were condemned on Main Street. The smallest of the three houses on Main had a shed. The shed was torn down because of space needed by the contractor doing the work. Isaacs-Niemesh questioned the price for the shed. The Mayor stated they sued for \$25,000 but Ohio Public Works Entity attorney negotiated it down to \$7,500; the attorney stated it was cheaper to settle than to litigate. The Mayor referenced another property situation, the Doughman's. Smith stated it was Liability Insurer. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if we had permission to tear down the shed. Administrator Smith stated we had permission to tear down all three properties. Solicitor Kaspar stated we should continue the discussion in Executive Session. Bryant stated he didn't want to pay that amount. Kathie Koehler advised Lake Road, not Prospect Road should have been listed on the printed information provided for the next line item. She asked Council to change the line number to 2011 610 for \$300, not \$500 increase for water meter installation. Koehler also requested a water increase in Contractual for \$2250, decreasing supplies by \$2250 for Jones Warner Engineering. Kaspar read the proposed Resolution.

Motion by Erwin to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #18-14; second by Neal. Four yea and 2 nay by Bryant and Isaacs-Niemesh. Motion by Erwin to adopt Resolution #18-14, approving miscellaneous adjustments in appropriations as listed; second by Neal. Four yea and two nay by Bryant and Isaacs-Niemesh. Motion carried.

Administrator Smith requested a Resolution for the River Corridor Pavement Rehabilitation Project, a Community Development Block Grant. The Mayor explained logistics, the two streets in the area and why they were chosen for the Resolution. Councilman Poe discussed Blackhawk Road stating the berm was gone and area was in bad shape. The Mayor concurred, advising it would be done later.

Motion by Poe to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #16-14; second by Bryant. All yea. Motion by Poe to adopt Resolution #16-14, approving CDBG Grant application and execution of subsequent agreement for River Corridor Pavement Rehabilitation Project; second by Bryant. All yea. Motion carried.

Approval of Disbursements

Revenue statistics by Fund Summary, bank reconciliations and disbursements were provided to Council. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if all expenditures were listed. Koehler responded yes.

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

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Motion by Erwin to approve the Schuerer Trust Fund application. All yea.

Public Forum

Dave Ducker inquired as to whether the sidewalks were included in Grant. The Mayor advised no, only street surfacing. He stated they would try to get some funding for sidewalks. LuAnne Cain posed a question to Smith about the subdivision approval at Mill and Pike Street near the Morrow Drive Thru. The Village Administrator responded, advising the owner was working with ODOT, etc. regarding the intersection. The Mayor stated it is a National Franchise.

Bev Massey asked Neal about the crosswalk at the school. Neal stated she was still working on it. The Mayor asked about the sidewalk program. Isaacs-Niemesh stated it was *Safe Routes to School*. The Mayor asked if we could tap into it. Discussion followed. Smith stated he would look into it; the cost is about \$40K. Massey noted the Home School is across from it. Poe added the Library was also across from the crosswalk. Massey also asked Smith if he had information on the building at the Plaza. Smith stated he was still working on it as well as a proposal for the Property Maintenance Code which would help. Thompson asked the Administrator if he would have something to show him before the next meeting. Smith responded.

T. Erwin thanked Erica Levine, John Poe, Ken Morgan, Ralph Blanton and Mr. and Mrs. Ducker who put hours and hours in to make Christmas on Main a success. Several commented on the great event. Bryant stated his son donated food and ran out. T. Erwin stated there were 1000 in attendance. The vendors did well and the Farm Bureau worked all evening driving tractors Erwin stated. Discussion followed. Additional positive comments were made.

Motion by Neal to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 6:38pm; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion to return to Regular Session by T. Erwin at 7:11pm; second by Poe.

Adjournment

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

Kathie Koehler, Fiscal Officer

Mike Erwin, Mayor