

Regular Session of Village Council

September 8, 2015

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 Clerk of Council. The following members were present.

York Bryant – P

Judy Neal – P

Terry Erwin – P

John Poe – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

William Thompson – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of previous meeting. Motion by Councilwoman Neal to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 Regular Session with the necessary correction noted; second by Councilman Thompson. All yea by roll call.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Village Administrator Rod Smith reported September 21, 2015 was Lieutenant Mat Landrum's official last day. He stated Landrum took a position with a neighboring law enforcement agency, commenting on his years of service to the Village and wishing him well. He advised he and Chief Kilburn drafted a job posting for the position. He also reported there were five top candidates being considered for the Public Works Maintenance II position; interviews were scheduled. He stated Maintenance Worker I, Gary Johnson, was doing an outstanding job. The Village Administrator referred Council to his written report and advised the Mayor's Court Report with Bank Reconciliation was attached. Smith acknowledged Special Dates: October 7, Officer Robert Hawk's Employment Anniversary and October 10, Council Member Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh's Birthday.

Thompson asked if the availability of dropping off old tires was still in place. Smith stated yes, tires may be dropped off at the Public Works building. He added if there is a location in the Village where several tires need to be removed, we would pick them up.

Fiscal Officer Nichole Knell referred to provided written reports, Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements and discussed a Resolution needed for miscellaneous adjustment increasing appropriations for \$1300 from Operating Supplies and Materials to Other Contractual Services for tap-ins to new properties. She stated the funds will come back to us. Solicitor John Kaspar provided the reading for the Resolution.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #10-15; second by Councilman Erwin. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #10-15, approving miscellaneous adjustments in appropriations; second by Erwin. All yea by roll call

Knell discussed Life Insurance, current cost versus proposed. The Fiscal Officer advised of changes since the last meeting; current life insurance carrier was dropping the Village due to size of group. A breakdown was provided. She stated a monthly savings of \$1300 for health insurance could be realized. Solicitor Kaspar read the pending Resolution approving Health Insurance. Isaacs-Niemesh posed a question, asking if there could be risk. Knell responded. Isaacs-Niemesh requested the worst case scenario. Knell stated it would be break even. Isaacs-Niemesh asked what if we don't go with this carrier. The Fiscal Officer provided an explanation. Issacs-Niemesh inquired if there was a contract. Knell stated we can change at any time and pursue another option. Discussion followed.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #11-15; second by Erwin. All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Resolution #11-15, approving new health insurance coverage/carrier; second by Poe. All yea by roll call.

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Knell requested a decrease in the bulk water rate from \$3.75 to \$2.75, citing recent activity from water haulers and the reasoning for the request. She advised she inquired to a few communities and Lebanon's rate was \$2.50 for 500 gallons, Waynesville \$2.00 and Blanchester \$3.75. Knell provided statistics for Bulk Water sales in recent years. Discussion followed. Kaspar read the pending Resolution.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #12-15; second by Isaacs-Niemesh; All yea. Motion by Neal to adopt Ordinance #12-15, approving an adjustment in bulk water rates to \$2.75 for 500 gallons; second by Bryant. All yea by roll call.

Judge Mike Gilb / Warren County Common Pleas Court

The Judge introduced himself as the newly appointed Common Pleas Judge replacing Judge Flannary who served for 42 years. He provided information regarding his background and preparation, Law Practice in Findlay, OH 5 years, 2001- 2007 as State Representative from Hancock County and most recently, Mason City Council to Magistrate. He stated he is originally from Green Hills, Ohio and has been married for 34 years. Gilb advised he has completed sixty days of trials and sentencing for Warren County Common Pleas Court and looks forward to continuing to serve the community.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Solicitor Kaspar gave the third reading of Resolution #7-15, Creation of Water Committee. He also discussed the final application for PY30, Public Improvements Water Plant Upgrade requesting approval of legislation authorizing Jones Warner Consultants to submit application on behalf of the Village, declaring an emergency. The Mayor commented on the importance of moving forward in a timely manner.

Motion by Poe to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #13-15; second by Neal. All yea by roll call. Motion by Poe to approve Resolution #13-15, authorizing Jones Warner Consultants to submit final application for OPWC PY30 on behalf of the Village; second by Neal. All yea by roll call.

The Solicitor presented and read the details of the Ordinance annexing approximately 62 acres of land from Salem Township to the Village of Morrow. He stated the original document was filed in April 2015 and adopted in May 2015 by Warren County Board of Commissioners and certified by the Warren County Clerk of Courts. Kaspar read the pending Ordinance.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #13-15; second by Erwin. All yea by roll call. Motion by Neal to adopt Ordinance #13-15, accepting the annexation of 62.501 acres in Salem Township; second by Erwin. All yea by roll call.

Public Forum

Mrs. Crystal Nichols, wife of the late James Nichols, stated she called the Township Trustees with no response following her husband's passing. She stated the Village of Morrow disrespected her husband and did not pay for his burial. Discussion continued. Daughter Brandy Nichols stated the Village paid for the funeral of Ryan Spears. The Mayor stated he was unaware of that and would research. He advised when the family claims the body and pays for the funeral, it is no longer an indigent case. He explained the Village's normal process and disbursement amount. He added the Village of Morrow did not make payment for a Ryan Spears within the last several months. Mrs. Nichols stated her husband told her he had a plot when he was employed by the Township; she stated she didn't have any paperwork from the Township. Discussion followed.

Neal advised the VFW would sponsor *Meet the Candidates Night* on October 21, 2015 at Highlawn and Houston, October 21, 2015 at 7pm; the moderator will be Patrick Dugan.

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Thompson posed a question to the Village Administrator stating a Public Records request for the new Policy Manual was made previously, but not received. He stated the Administrator had been working on it for two years. Discussion continued. Smith responded the manual was in draft form. Thompson referenced a 2014 report, stating he was previously promised piece meal form of the report. Discussion continued.

Adjournment

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

Nichole Knell, Fiscal Officer

Mike Erwin, Mayor