

Regular Session of Village Council

April 12, 2016

Call to Order

The Regular Session of Council was called to order by Vice Mayor William Thompson in the absence of Mayor Bryant. 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.

Kiley Dane – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

Judy Neal – P

John Poe – P

Benjamin Steiner – P

William Thompson – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of previous meeting. Motion by Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016 Regular Session; second by Councilwoman Neal. All yea by roll call.

Dick Warner / Jones Warner Consultants

Warner provided a color coded aerial view of the Water Plant for the Vice Mayor and Council and an update on the project. He reported Well #1 was replaced. He advised he had a conversation with Al Boone and learned the pump would be in by Wednesday for Plant #2; if testing passes, we will be back on line the following week. Warner advised the drawings were being completed. He stated two new sand filters from Monroe are shown; 500' to 600' of access is needed and certain walls are being moved. He advised other masonry block is fine. Dick Warner stated we are in a flood plain; storage will be planned. The door is being designed for security purposes. New softening tanks and sand filters are being installed. Two existing pumps will be modified and utilized. Warner discussed EPA requirement for the pumps. Sand filter/chlorine operation was explained to include pump out. He reported Monroe sand filters are 3 times larger; more water is needed for operation. Surge tank is now in place and water discharged at a slow rate. The generator will remain. Warner advised instrumentation and controls are in place.

The Vice Mayor suggested drawings be available for citizens to review. Warner offered to leave the drawings and stay to answer citizen questions at the end of the meeting. He explained the piping location following Vice Mayor Thompson's question regarding piping. Police Chief Kilburn asked if the line size could be increased to possibly 6" for water haulers to increase future business. He also suggested credit card access for patrons at the Water Plant when work was completed. Vice Mayor asked if a Class I Operator would work. Warner stated a Class I Operator is fine for the new plant operations. Discussion followed. Mr. Nelson asked what the back wash tank was made of and the size. Warner advised it was rated for 150lb pressure and made of 7' diameter steel. Councilman Poe asked when the plant would be finished and soft water available. Dick Warner advised the project was anticipated to EPA by the end of May for approval and possibly out for bid by early Fall. Poe clarified start date and Warner responded July/August 2017. Discussion followed.

Bruce Miller asked what caused water usage from Western Water. Warner advised sufficient water for fire protection was required. He added when both plants are in operation, there will not be a need for Western Water. Discussion followed. Warner stated there is more demand on the system due to growth. Kilburn stated wells weren't producing proper water flow; they needed cleaning. Warner advised both have been cleaned. Poe stated during the last paving project, there was damage and there is a large orange cone on Miranda Street. Warner stated he would confer with Shawn Campbell. He offered his phone number to citizens who might want additional information after viewing the drawings.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Thompson advised Mark Allen must be approved as Zoning Inspector. He stated he is currently on the job.

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Motion by Poe to appoint Allen as Zoning Inspector; second by Neal. All yeas by roll call.

The Vice Mayor introduced Mark Allen who stated a 60 Day Letter was issued at 120 Main Street and advised Chief Kilburn assisted him on Pamela Drive. Allen stated he resided in the Woodlands. Vice Mayor Thompson discussed Allen's military service.

Thompson advised the Water Operator was no longer contracting with the Village. He advised Rhonda Ward Southwig was asked to serve as a part-time employee; she contacted OPER and learned she may not after retirement work or volunteer with the Village. Vice Mayor Thompson stated the Village was looking into hiring a Water Operator and a maintenance worker. He also discussed billing from the former contractor.

Police Chief Kilburn, after complimenting the new Zoning Inspector, reported several months prior he was asked to get a new machine and introduced the vendor he contacted. Kilburn stated the weather was taking a toll on the roads, etc. He advised he found a machine and discussed its options. Kilburn stated his prior experience was with the State of Ohio. The machine was used during natural disasters, a 4in1 Bucket. He stated the vendor, Scott Reynolds, would provide more information. Kilburn advised the current tractor front end was rusted out and lines were rusted; the equipment had not been well maintained and is now in for repairs. Kilburn believed the bucket could be removed.

Scott Reynolds, of Southeastern Equipment Company of Monroe, Ohio, stated he discussed the needs of the Village, not the upscale machines. He added Baystone Municipal Lending provided a reduced interest rate for 3 to 8 years with no penalty for early buyout; there would be an \$11,000 annual payment. He stated the Fiscal Officer had the information on Baystone. Discussion followed. Reynolds requested questions from Council. Thompson asked what kind of certification is needed for a Village employee to operate the equipment. Kilburn responded; he didn't think there was a qualification and discussed further options of the machine. Reynolds stated it is a 4 in 1 clam shell 18" bucket and explained operation. A photo was provided to Council members. Kilburn stated the machine's options have been reduced. Isaacs-Niemesh asked the price of the unit. Reynolds responded \$78,751.75 after a 45% discount. Reynolds advised it had 2 buckets, a 12" bucket was added. He continued making his recommendation. Isaacs-Niemesh asked the Fiscal Officer about the contract spending. Knell gave the yearly spending and break out for three years. She added the storm drain at the new drive-thru cost \$1200. The Fiscal Officer stated Public Works employee Hanna stated he couldn't operate the equipment and the Chief also could not. The vendor stated they would provide training.

The Police Chief inquired about the 1" water line; he stated it cost more because of an error in locating the correct site. A few questions from citizens were answered by the vendor, Reynolds. Bruce Miller asked why the Village didn't look at used equipment. Kilburn responded. Discussion followed. Bev Massey inquired about the warranty. The vendor responded, stating Blanchester bought used equipment 6 years earlier and it is still operative. Reynolds stated he has a rental fleet. Bruce Miler made further comments. Discussion followed. Sue Ann Nelson posed a question; Kilburn responded.

Reynolds provided further comments and possible scenarios; he stated a down payment was required. He added the company provided parts, service, etc. Poe gave prior positive experience with a government entity and equipment purchases; he stated the Village must weigh contractor costs with equipment costs. Neal stated a tree fell across a property and asked if the equipment might be used in that situation. She also referenced a prior fire at Nappa Auto Parts. Discussion followed. Vice Mayor Thompson asked what Council wished. Isaacs-Niemesh stated she would like to hear the Mayor's thoughts on the matter. Thompson gave his thoughts regarding the issue being addressed. Isaacs-Niemesh asked the Fiscal Officer if the Village could afford it. Bev Massey commented. Kilburn commented. More discussion followed. Solicitor Kaspar commented on public bidding mandates. Kilburn stated they are not needed with the State bid. Isaacs-Niemesh posed a question.

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Motion by Poe to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #6-16; second by Steiner. Five yea. Motion by Poe to approve Resolution #6-16, approving purchase of Loader Backhoe equipment; second by Neal. Five yea by roll call.

Kaspar requested an Ordinance for 203 Penders, past drug use and unpaid taxes. A \$919 default judgement plus compensation for his cost was approved, a special assessment for his fees of \$970 in pursuit of judgement for prosecution costs to be forwarded to the Auditor, a total of \$1800. Mrs. Luanne Cain posed a question. Kaspar explained it would come from the sale of the property.

Motion by Neal to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance#2-16; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. Five yea. Motion by Neal to approve Ordinance #2-16, approving Special Assessment against 203 Penders; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. Five yea by roll call.

The Vice Mayor gave the floor to Sue Ann Nelson who reported on the Tree Board planting and Tree City celebration on April 30, 2016 at 1pm at Richardson Nursery. She stated Public Works employee Mike Hanna would prepare the hole for planting and Mayor Bryant would speak, reading a statement /public proclamation.

The Fiscal Officer Nicole Knell reviewed standard monthly report listings provided to Council. Reports provided to Council included Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation, Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements.

Knell discussed appropriation for Thornton Park damage last year. She stated a check was received from the insurer and it was necessary to appropriate \$1300 for repair of goal post. She advised the responsible party would make restitution; a \$500 deductible was received to date.

Motion by Poe to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #7-16; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. Five yea. Motion by Poe to approve Resolution #7-16, approving adjustments in appropriations; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. Five yea by roll call.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #8-16; second by Steiner. Five yea. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to approve Resolution #8-16, approving agreement with Warren County to purchase rock salt for 2016; second by Steiner. Five yea by roll call.

Vice Mayor Thompson advised he wished to enter into Executive Session following the Public Forum.

Public Forum

Mike Meyer stated he was the owner of a five family dwelling where a toilet was running for one month. He stated the water bill was \$558 for two months. He previously requested a credit but did not meet criteria so he was appealing to Council for consideration. Poe asked a question regarding repair of the toilet. The owner stated he made the repair. Thompson responded others had been turned down as well because they didn't meet criteria. Isaacs-Niemesh stated she was at a crossroads. Bev Massey asked about arrangements on the bill. Poe stated no; Neal agreed.

Bruce Miller asked about the status of Ohio Checkbook and if it was in the pipeline. He asked a question about the web page and hydrant flushing. Thompson advised the next hydrant flushing will be system wide with advance specific location. Miller stated he wanted to get donations on the floor fund and he wanted to extend the project to ODNR. Sue Ann Nelson stated the pigeons are a problem and she received information on the process. Miller stated they were asked about maintaining the flowers on the bridge. Thompson stated he would water them. Miller asked if he could accept donations for the

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flowers on behalf of the Village. Poe stated who would object to flowers. Miller stated he collected \$620 in donations and gave the names of donors, Jackie Miller, Paula Scarcella, Green Organics, LLC, Stephen/Amanda Dickson, Patty Viox Proctor, Andrea Klercke, Home Girl Décor, Mary K Baird, Gold Leaf Photography, Carlos/Sue Swearingen, Peggy Hostetter, Beverly Day, Dorothy Miller, Wanda Cosley, Jim/Mary Mullins, Ellen Layne, Paula/Chris Bales, Ryan Homes and Anthony Weisbrod. Thompson at the Chamber of Commerce meeting received a check made out to Morrow of Tomorrow.

Miller stated the Car Show was May 31st; it would be an all-day event. He stated he would get more information and provide flyers. He stated the VFW Parade would be on Memorial Day. Miller stated there were a lot of complaints at flat rock, debris, trash, bottles and gas. He continued, stating there were pot holes at VFW at Second and Grant Street, also Kibbey. Thompson advised the area has cold patch. Kilburn gave explanation as previously provided.

Miller discussed the GPS tracker from the previous month's meeting. Thompson commented. Miller asked about the contract for Blackhawk Road. Thompson responded; Kilburn also responded.

Thomas Hawk of Hawk Foundation stated he wished to expand services to include scholarships and mowing for the elderly. He asked for the use of the old Village mower. Neal asked to what type mower he was referring. Hawk requested a riding mower; he stated he was told it was not in use. Heath responded. Bruce Miller asked if the chipper was being used. Poe commented. Hawk stated he would speak with Cindy to get a list of people who needed grass mowing.

Mr. Hawk also stated he had a problem with the approach by Mr. Miller when requesting donations for flowers. He distributed a letter to Council.

Mrs. Massey asked Neal about the water used for the fire and referenced ambulance charges. Neal advised taxes pay for emergency services. More discussion continued regarding the wells and Western Water.

Archie Morris asked if the Village had anyone employed to do street work. Thompson explained. Mr. Morris asked if there is a shortage of money or does the Village advertise. Thompson gave the history of hiring with regard to the application and salary required for the position. The Vice Mayor stated we are looking for a part-time Operator. Morris complimented Thompson for recently helping with the street crew. Discussion followed.

Motion by Neal to adjourn to Executive Session for Personnel Issues at 9:05pm; second by Steiner. All yea. Thompson advised the Fiscal Officer would also adjourn to the Executive Session.

Motion by Neal to return to Regular Session at 9:35pm; second by Dane. All yea.

Adjournment

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

Nichole Knell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor