

Regular Session of Village Council

August 9, 2016

Call to Order

The Regular Session of Council was called to order by Mayor York 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 the previous meetings. Motion by Councilman Poe to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2016 Regular Session, second by Councilwoman Neal. All yea by roll call. Motion by Poe to approve minutes of the July 12, 2016 Regular Session; second by Councilman Steiner. Three yea by roll call, 2 abstentions by Councilman Thompson and Neal. Motion carried. Motion by Poe to approve minutes of the July 18, 2016 Special Session; second by Steiner. Five yea by roll call.

Reports provided to Council included Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation, Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements.

Mayor Bryant advised Public Works mowed, trimmed and cleared a lot of brush this month. He stated several windows needed to be replaced at Village office. He identified various windows and discussed the current condition. Council was asked to consider it; he stated the source of the funds must be determined. Councilwoman Neal posed a question on the Building Maintenance account. The Fiscal Officer agreed to check the status.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Poe discussed safety on the Bike Trail adjacent to his business. He advised riders don't look when approaching the Stop Signs; the situation is worse on weekends. The Mayor added the area at the Depot' is hard for bikers to see. Discussion followed. Poe stated there were many close calls; several examples were given. Possible fines were suggested. The Mayor stated he spoke with Police Chief Kilburn regarding issuing warnings first; he felt the town would get a bad name. Resident George Bocklett commented on his experience. Thompson stated the Village had a lot of repeat business and traffic in the area. Resident Luanne Cain stated she doesn't ride in the area of the Stop Signs; she stated bikers like to get speed. She added the Village runs the risk of avoidance. Discussion followed. Poe reiterated safety is the issue. People are spending money and time in Morrow. Bocklett commented on his personal preference. Neal stated a better solution is needed before ticketing bikers running Stop Signs. Councilwoman Dane stated it discriminates against drivers not to issue citations to bike riders running Stop Signs. Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh stated we must follow the law, advising she was in favor of ticketing. Discussion continued as to whether warnings or tickets should be issued.

The Mayor asked how other towns are handling this issue. Poe described Caution Signs are used by Loveland. Steiner stated in Loveland, bikers may have the right-of-way. Discussion followed. Thompson stated he has seen many get off the bikes and walk. Poe advised he spoke with Ken Ellison of DNR who may be at our next meeting regarding the issue. Isaacs-Niemesh stated she is concerned with officers sitting at the Bike Trail. Poe suggested bikers ride on the street for a portion of the trip only leaving 2 traffic signs to deal with during the ride. Thompson stated bikers feel that could be dangerous.

Motion by Poe to make the area a Target Enforcement Area, with Police determining the method of ticketing; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea by roll call.

Thompson discussed the Historical Society, stating household furniture is being stored in the Village garage. He added the area is not climate controlled. Mayor Bryant stated there is

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more in the garage bays now; the Christmas items need to go. He stated he discussed the matter with Isaacs-Niemesh who stated she would give them to Goodwill. Mrs. Barbara Thompson stated she would like to see decorations displayed in the Village and the balance donated. She volunteered to sort through the items. Isaacs-Niemesh agreed with the plan.

Motion by Neal to allow Barbara Thompson to take charge of organizing, storing and discarding unneeded Christmas decorations; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. Five yea by roll call, one abstention by Thompson.

Neal advised the Historical Society will move their items to a climate controlled storage unit. She stated she was unsure of the source of any additional items; the group has not brought anything there in a long time. Discussion followed regarding origin of decorations. Poe commented on the progress of the Historical Society.

Mayor Bryant commented the Village did not have a break-in or theft since January 2016. He saluted the officers. He added it is hard to keep full time officers. The Mayor stated the starting pay was \$16.82 plus benefits. He noted communities who hired prior officers.

Fiscal Officer Nichole Knell requested adjustments in appropriations for an Income Tax refund of \$195, audit expenses for \$205, zoning inspector services due to increased zoning permits \$4,559.70, water tap over payment refund to Ryan Homes \$5,005 and added equipment of \$69.57 in Water Operating Fund on an emergency basis. She added per OPERS, Solicitor Kaspar cannot be paid as contractual and receive OPERS, citing \$4,000 Services, \$560 OPERS and \$57.27 Medicare increase in line item. Total appropriation adjustments are \$14,582.70. Poe asked a question on the income tax refund and its source. Knell explained.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #18-16; second by Neal. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adopt Resolution #18-16, approving adjustments in appropriations as outlined; second by Neal. All yea by roll call.

Gary Loxley / Warren County Court Judge

Judge Loxley advised he addressed Village officials in 2014. He reported an increase in court costs of \$20, noting expenses of the court. He gave an update on changes that have occurred since his last report. The Warren County Court now has an elected a Clerk of Courts and a new electronic case management system monitored by a Florida agency is in place. The court is working on a paperless system which started May 1st. He explained the Weekend on-calls in which Judge Fisher rotates with him. He advised the emergency on-call arraignments are held on Saturdays or Sundays at 10am; domestic violence offenses or violation of a temporary protection order offenses with no set bond schedule are held for court. Thursday is the regular court date and the Sheriff's office brings individuals over to the Week-End On-Call Court.

The Judge discussed the Specialized Docket guidelines and the Treatment Team; Judge Fisher handles the Success Docket for mental health issues and Judge Loxley handles Veterans Docket court. Final approval from the Ohio Supreme Court is required. Warren County's Specialized Dockets meet on alternate Wednesdays and no additional taxpayer money is spent.

Judge Loxley addressed court overcrowding and increasing jail space required. He stated the Warren County Court has a Drug Impact Panel and a Domestic Violence Panel. Drug victims also come to the panel and listen to the victims. The Judge asked for questions. Mayor Bryant asked the Judge if he is running for office. The Judge replied yes and the deadline is tomorrow. Discussion followed. Neal asked if the Drug Impact Board does impact work with juveniles. Judge Loxley responded no; Judge Kirby does not have anything set up at this time for juveniles. Discussion followed on the deadlines of heroin. Chief Kilburn advised the last person killed in World War II is buried in Morrow, PFC

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Mullin killed August 14, 1945. The Judge stated the Chief asked him previously to visit the Veterans Cemetery. The Chief complimented Judge Loxley for his service.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Knell requested a retroactive Resolution for 3 vacations for 2 weeks each granted in 2015 per Auditors. She reiterated Personnel Policy changes need to reflect this policy. Solicitor Kaspar provided the reading for the Resolution.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #19-16; second by Steiner. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adopt Resolution #19-16, approving vacation retroactive to 2015 for three employees for 2 weeks each; second by Steiner. All yea by roll call.

Schuerer Trust Fund applications were distributed to Council members. Thompson asked if anyone knew the applicants.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the Schuerer Trust applications; second by Dane. All yea by roll call.

Knell made a request for a leak adjustment for a resident of \$29 for review by Council.

Motion by Poe to approve the leak adjustment; second by Neal. All yea by roll call.

Bryant explained the prior discussion. Discussion followed. Heath stated 3 were stopped last week; one was a Common Pleas Judge from Columbus. Poe summarized a portion of the prior discussion; he emphasized if bikers would use Main Street for a portion of the trip, they would not have all the Stop Signs.

Knell stated the Mayor signed the land purchase closing documents for Rails to Trails which will be submitted to the State for reimbursement. She distributed a handout to Council showing the monthly Health Insurance Premium increase for medical and dental. Neal asked if the Village should shop around for insurance. Knell agreed to check.

Mayor Bryant asked if Council saw the new backhoe. He stated he observed the equipment in use at Alpine. He advised the Village billed \$300 for the use of the backhoe.

Public Forum

George Bocklett stated a concern regarding the lamp post lighting and the brightness of the lamp which is near his porch. He requested a deflector placed on the lamp.

Kilburn discussed the Allen Brothers water issue on a new street in the subdivision. He stated there was a concern with the engineering, the way water runs into the ditch on Morrow Blackhawk Road. Kaspar suggested he contact Neil Tunison's office who may dispatch Engineer Petty. Kilburn agreed to do so.

Adjournment

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

Nichole Knell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor