

## Regular Session of Village Council

November 14, 2017

### **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  
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 Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017 Regular Session; second by Councilman Thompson. All yeas by roll call.

### **Shawn Campbell / Jones Warner Consultants Incorporated**

Campbell provided the status of the Water Plant, reporting EPA approved the plant. He expounded on the issue with flow history rating. Based on EPA's rating, certain changes are required; instead of one contact holding tank, two will be required. The firm is scheduled to advertise on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>; plans will be available. A mandatory pre-bid meeting on site at the Water Plant will be December 13, 2017. With a \$1.5 million project, mandatory pre-bid meetings are customary. He advised one week will be allowed for questions after the pre-bid meeting and one week will be given for responses from Jones Warner Consulting. All contractors will receive all questions and answers. Bids will be opened on January 5, 2018 and reviewed by Jones Warner Consultants. Bids will be provided to the Village of Morrow by January 9, 2018.

Mr. Campbell advised only one well would be under construction at a time to allow the Village continuous operation at the plant. He discussed the construction process and targeted 12/18/18 as the latest completion date for the Water Plant. Councilman Thompson asked how long the Village would be down to one plant. Campbell stated, starting with Plant #2, the tops come off and new tops are installed. Discussion followed. Campbell advised only one set of plans has the EPA stamp affixed and Jones Warner requires that set. The Mayor asked if the Village would have soft water. Campbell responded affirmatively. Councilwoman Neal asked what the consequences were for the contractors. Shawn Campbell advised there are provisions for liquidated damages for exceeded deadlines. He further explained if incentive is offered, grants can't be used for early completion. Discussion followed regarding fines and inclement weather. Campbell stated work can be done inside during weather conditions. The aquifer, iron and magnesium, is tied to the depth of well; Well #3 is 30 feet deeper than the other 2 wells. Campbell explained iron and magnesium removal utilizing different types of media; he advised the sand type was changed to accommodate Well #3, the golden gusher well. The Mayor discussed financing, payments and totals. He stated water rates must be considered. Council reviewed other local water rate comparisons.

With the Village loan payment at \$50,000 per year, Campbell stated a \$6.18 per month increase allowed the Village only to repay the loan. Discussion followed. Councilman Poe compared what Harveysburg and Maineville are charging, \$7.50 each billing cycle. He also discussed minimums of various areas and how the rates were calculated. Campbell advised he used 950 customers as a base for his calculation; you want to look at a flat fee for replacement and improvement for the Water Plant. Isaacs Niemesh stated \$9.00 a month would pay for replacement and improvement. Discussion followed regarding money designated for capital costs. Poe stated at the current rate, it would be \$10.00 a month to repay the no interest loan. Campbell stated a \$10.53 increase every 2 months would generate \$60,000 a year. He stated a water rate increase must be done by Ordinance. Thompson stated he wanted it to be non-emergency legislation, requiring three

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readings. Campbell stated in comparing soft water, South Lebanon's soft water compares to Morrow's new soft water when the plant is completed. Councilwoman Dane commented she would rather raise the rate rather than impose a one-time charge because of the different volumes of water used. Mr. Campbell suggested a flat rate plus volume usage. He suggested a replace and improvement cost of \$5.00 per month or \$10 every two months with the Village receiving \$57,000 per year to repay the loan. With the miles of water main at \$100 a foot, lime and calcium issues will go away. Discussion followed.

Poe discussed water heater replacements. Campbell advised the resin being installed will compare to any community and most won't need to add individual softeners. Poe stated trash needs to go up also, about \$1.00 a month. Isaacs-Niemesh stated that will total \$6.00 a month increase for both water and trash. Campbell warned the municipality match is greater now for grants than in past years.

Motion by Poe to approve Ordinance #6-17, for water rate increase of \$10.00 per billing cycle at \$5.00 per month for replace and improve Water Fund for new Water Plant construction; second by Thompson. All yea by roll call. *First Reading*

Poe asked Campbell where the Village stands on Morrow Blackhawk Road. Campbell advised the District Engineer would meet on November 15, 2017 to approve project. He stated erosion was worse. He was concerned; structural integrity, peers, etc. need to be installed.

**Reports / Legislation from Village Officials**

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

The Mayor reported Councilwoman Neal's father passed and reiterated his condolences. He advised Morrow to Morrow received the go ahead from a financial consultant regarding the gifting of the Depot to the Village, stating it would belong to the Village in January 2018. Thompson stated he has been working on the floor plan. Mayor Bryant also advised the Village applied for a grant for Hazen Avenue. He stated he received complaints the Rest Home water runoff is being drained in the ditch.

Poe reported Thompson, Tracey Sterling, Jim Snyder, Stan Williams and others met to discuss the Bike Trail \$700,000 grant. He stated they have been working with the Ohio Speaker of the House. We looked at the road with Snyder; it's bad, dead man's curve near Thornton Park. Poe stated they are proposing an extension on the funds to purchase property; this is preliminary, using the money we have for planning and realigning the road. Poe advised we yet have legal issues; we have title to some property. There is a deadline for the \$700,000, \$120,000 left to purchase property expiring the summer of 2017 and requiring an extension. Poe requested a contract be signed with Jim Schneider to file the extension. The Mayor stated the Trail must get to Thornton Park first. Poe stated we hope we can use funds to get down *dead man's curve* repaired. Solicitor Kaspar asked questions regarding the scope and what was being referenced. Isaacs-Niemesh asked if the property owners were willing to sell. Discussion followed. Kaspar read pending emergency legislation for the Trails Fund project.

Motion by Poe to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #17-17; second by Thompson. All yea by roll call. Motion by Poe to approve Resolution #17-17, to approve contract with Snyder to file extension for Trails Fund Grant and as the designated project manager submit new application for 2018 State Capital Funds; second by Thompson. All yea by roll call.

Neal advised her Dad was 95 years of age. She thanked everyone for the food, cards and other acts of kindness to include the signage on the Municipal Building. The Mayor stated the Flag was also flown at half-staff.

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Thompson advised Agnes McIntosh's term on the Tree Board expires at the end of 2017 and she doesn't wish to serve a 3 year term. She is willing to serve one year and will serve the balance of SueAnn Nelson's term ending December 31, 2018. Thompson stated Jean Mayne wished to serve out Paul Zorn's term on the Tree Board ending December 31, 2019. Neal was appointed to the Tree Board for a 3 year term ending 31, 2020.

Motion by Thompson to approve the appointments to the Tree Board; second by Poe. Five yea, one abstention by Neal.

Isaacs-Niemesh acknowledged she had a letter to be read in Executive Session.

**Public Forum**

Mr. Paul Gilkinson stated the Community Fellowship Church would have singing and a southern meal on Saturday, November 18th; the meal would begin at 4pm and the singing at 6pm. He advised there was no charge and everyone was invited.

A lady got stuck at Miami and Miranda; wheels drop out. The cone was moved before she went in the ditch. Gilkinson stated the Village could have a lawsuit if a biker is hurt; repair is needed. He asked Council to look at the location to determine a solution. Poe stated there is a simple solution, about \$40. Gilkinson discussed a possible fix, maybe a temporary guard rail.

Bruce Miller stated Main Street and Center Street was a similar problem. The Mayor stated they wanted grates at the time. Discussion followed. The Mayor told Mr. Paul Gilkinson he would take care of it.

One citizen asked how much the water minimum rate was. The response was \$6.00 for 1000 gallons. Paul Gilkinson stated the County told him 7 years ago he had a leak; he found two commodes were leaking and advised residents how they could detect a leak.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Thompson to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:40pm for personnel matters. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Neal to return to Regular Session at 8:55pm.

**Reports / Legislation from Village Officials Cont'd**

Fiscal Officer Tina Powell requested a resolution for adjustments in appropriations for \$1889.11 for changes in phone/internet service charges. Discussion followed.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #18-17; second by Neal. All yea by roll call. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to approve Resolution #18-17, to approve adjustments in appropriations; second by Neal. All yea by roll call.

The Fiscal Officer thanked Village officials and community for the opportunity to serve the Village of Morrow.

**Adjournment**

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

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Tina Powell, Fiscal Officer

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York Bryant, Mayor