

Regular Session of Village Council

February 12, 2019

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.

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P
Mike McKeehan – P
Jessica Smothers – P

Ben Steiner – P
Clarissa Walls-Parker – P
Paul Zorn – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion by Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019 Regular Session; second by Councilwoman Smothers. All yeas by roll call.

Randy Chenault / Constituent Liaison for Ohio First District Congressman Chabot

Chenault introduced himself and advised of his responsibilities for the Congressman. He stated their offices handle Social Security concerns, immigration, Veterans Affairs, Internal Revenue Services and Passport questions and issues. He provided contact information, 513-684-2723 or 421-8704 for the Warren County office. Mayor Bryant commented and thanked him for coming to Morrow.

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.

Mayor Bryant advised he spoke with the realtor regarding the sale of the Plaza Shopping Center, contracts are pending. He also discussed the recent flooding and high water issues in the Village.

Village Administrator Caroline Whitacre reported on the manure piles on Route 22 & 3. She stated Councilman McKeehan spoke with the farmer previously. Whitacre advised the manure sat for 5 to 6 months each year for the past 3 years. She stated she spoke with the owner, James Juergensen, previously and he agreed to look into it. The owner was concerned it affected the school and advised the farmer would cease and desist from the storing and spreading this year. The farmer pledged to remove the existing piles once they have sufficiently dried out.

The Administrator advised the GIS Mapping Grant for \$85,000 was funded as part of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The grant was in cooperation with Rural Community Assistance Program which helps small communities like ours; Warren County was pleased with this effort of electronic mapping by the Village. She stated the map will be an electronic map of the system valves, water lines and meters; it's a great tool. Joe Zistler expounded on the electronic mapping system.

Joe Zistler / Project Engineer for Jones Warner Consultants

Joe Zistler of Jones Warner Consultants introduced himself and advised the Water Plant Project was ahead of schedule and on budget. He reported other mains and valves were found underground. Whitacre referred to a violation letter from EPA. Zistler advised EPA wants the valves turned every year, he explained it as exercising torque, turn one way and back. Zistler stated he was on Morrow Blackhawk road the prior week and the drainage ditch was filled with leaves and debris. He stated he would advise Hanna. He stated Jones Warner would identify which valves are broken and put in a grant to repair them. Zorn asked how they are located. Zistler commented on asbestos; he didn't think the Village had lead joint valves. He stated maintaining them by hand was ridiculous; Marino Hansel, the region's representative for EPA, was aware the Village's mapping system was not yet automated, GIS. Mayor Bryant commented on the schedule for completion of the Water

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Plant Project. Zistler stated all pipes and electrical are ripped out; contractor is ahead of schedule on the building. The retention pipe and sanitary are done. He advised the contractor stated he will be finished early.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials Cont'd

Councilwoman Walls-Parker posed a question on the bridge at Woodville near Flatrock. Fiscal Officer Tina Powell advised the County Engineer was contacted. Police Chief Kilburn asked about the concern related to the bridge; he stated it belongs to the County. Walls-Parker stated the problem is where the road connects to the bridge. Powell advised she would contact the County Engineer again. The Mayor commented on County maintenance. Chief Kilburn stated the culvert is our problem per the county Engineer. The Mayor stated the Village would apply cold patch.

Smothers distributed the Ohio Villages Officer's Handbook, informational handbooks from the Auditor of State, to Council members. She stated she worked with the Village Solicitor to acquire the information and highlighted the contents. Kaspar advised the handbook is from David Yost and available online under the Ohio Revised Code.

Councilman McKeehan inquired about Todd's Fork Reserve. He asked if the pot holes were filled. Mayor Bryant responded yes. Solicitor Kaspar stated he researched Auditor's records regarding Todd's Fork Reserve. He stated we are looking at options, trying to locate an initial PUD, Performance Bond or Letter of Credit. We want to resolve the situation. We are sympathetic. He stated he would continue to research along with the Clerk of Council. Mayor Bryant commented. Discussion followed. McKeehan asked what happened initially. Joe McReynolds, a resident of Todd's fork Reserve, responded. He stated the developer filed bankruptcy. Chief Kilburn provided information from Warren County's website, a 1980 plat map of Todd's Fork Reserve. Kaspar advised the Village would work with the Congressman's office to see if relief is available; we want a remedy. McReynolds discussed the road not being built to standards. Kaspar further discussed the issue and time parameters. Another resident referenced the County Engineer. Discussion followed. Kaspar stated we may find a resolution to get the road dedicated and follow that path. The residents thanked the Village for the snow removal, but stated they were concerned about the dirt and debris left behind, about ½ ton of dirt. The Mayor advised the Village would remove any debris left behind. He stated the Police Chief used a front end loader to remove the snow on the road. The Mayor discussed grants and their availability. Discussion followed.

Isaacs-Niemesh stated there are pot holes everywhere that must be filled. Walls-Parker asked for details concerning the developer's bankruptcy. Discussion followed. Kaspar spoke about developments and HOA's, etc. He expressed concern. Kaspar stated there should have been a Performance Bond; we haven't located one yet. Kaspar stated he was unsure where the ball was dropped. A Todd's Fork Reserve resident stated one lot was sold at Sherriff's Auction on Monday. He asked the residents of the development to return the following month. Bev Massey asked about the Sheriff's sale for the lot. Kaspar responded.

Zorn reported on the Tree Board Meeting. He also advised there were several complaints regarding lighting at the intersection of Highlawn and Houston. He advised there is one light needed at the intersection. He stated Duke Energy stated the cost was \$10 per light; this is the area near the old VFW. Discussion followed.

The Fiscal Officer presented a water leak adjustment request for the Car Wash. She stated the lines froze and pipes were replaced. She stated the average usage was 10,533 and usage for the bill in question was over 74,000. The owner is asking for a \$190.40 reduction.

Motion by Zorn to approve the reduction; second by Councilman Steiner. All yea.

Kaspar read a pending Resolution authorizing the Village to purchase salt through the Warren County Engineer's Office for 2019 to 2020.

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Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #1-19; second by Steiner. All yea by roll call. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adopt Resolution #1-19 authorizing the Village to enter into contract to purchase 100 tons of road salt for 2019 to 2020 from Warren County; second by Steiner. All yea by roll call.

Kaspar read an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to approve the legal description of the plat survey for 8.623 acre tract for Nathaniel Development. Mayor Bryant advised the Planning Commission met on February 7, 2019 and approved the plat survey for 25 homes to be built on an 8.623 acre tract of land. He stated Darryl Johnson, Chairman of the Planning Commission signed and Mrs. Allen from Nathaniel Development was present at the meeting. McKeehan stated the same builders plus 2 new ones would erect the homes. The legal description of the plat to be recorded; survey has been done,

Motion by McKeehan to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #1-19; second by Zorn. All yea by roll call. Motion by McKeehan to adopt Ordinance #1-19 authorizing the Mayor to approve recording of new 8 acre plat with Warren County for 25 new homes to be built; second by Zorn. All yea by roll call.

Kaspar read and explained the pending Ordinance adopting the American Legal Code updated by the General Assembly for 2019.

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Ordinance #2-19; second by McKeehan. All yea by roll call. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adopt Ordinance #2-19, authorizing purchase of 2019 American Legal Basic Code; second by Walls-Parker. All yea by roll call.

Public Forum

Mr. McReynolds advised the High School Seniors are doing Community Service and felt they could serve the Village if there was work for them to do. Isaacs-Niemesh raised the question regarding liability. Discussion followed. McReynolds stated there is a form that must be signed for the students. He stated he would advise Mr. Nathan at the High School. The Village Administrator commented and the Fiscal Officer suggested work they could perform for the Village. Discussion followed.

Mandy Beamer stated Little Miami Food Pantry needs plastic bags. She advised on Saturday, May 25, 2019 from 10am to 2pm, the 5th Annual Car Show will be held at the Arts Center; free food and drinks will be provided. The profits will go to Salem/Morrow Fire Department. Bev Massey advised a Bingo would be held at the Pineridge Nursing Home. They are asking for donations from local businesses. Bev Massey raised a question regarding the Village Garage Sale. The Mayor advised the Chamber of Commerce makes arrangements each year for the Garage Sale. Discussion followed.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials Cont'd

Village Administrator Caroline Whitacre requested, Ron Kilburn, the Zoning Inspector's time worked be increased from 33% to 50%. Whitacre stated he has been in the position for four months and she is pleased with his performance. Discussion followed.

All Council members were in agreement with an increase to 50% for Ron Kilburn. All yea.

Adjournment

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adjourn; second by Steiner. All yea by roll call.

Tina Powell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor