

Regular Session of Village Council

September 8, 2020

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.

Jim Frederick – P

Jessica Smothers – A

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

Ben Steiner – P

Mike McKeehan – 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 August 11, 2020 Regular Session; second by Councilman McKeehan. Three yea by roll call, two abstentions due to prior absence. Motion failed.

Shawn Campbell / Jones Warner Consultants

A summary report was provided for the Water Plant to Council. Village Administrator Whitacre discussed the report, advised 2 of the 3 buildings at the plant were built in 1945 and highlighted significant governmental rulings and expenditures. She stated the Water Plant was inspected in 2014 and EPA cited three items, a dire situation; Council acted quickly and approved a connection to Western Water. An OPWC grant submitted by Shawn Campbell along with, a no interest loan was required for complete rebuild of the two water plant facilities. The grant and loan application, submitted in 2015, was for \$1,977 million. She stated in 2016, EPA recommended a .5 million gallons a day facility. Whitacre advised that \$2.7 million was bid initially for the project. She stated Campbell and his firm re-scoped the project and Tech-Line bid directly with the Village. Smith Corp bid \$1.5M. There was mitigating cost. No records existed for underground piping, causing a 3 month delay. Councilman Zorn asked for the actual mark up. Campbell stated there was none; we pulled that feature from the contractor, Smith Corp. One of the reasons we pulled that from the contractor was to prevent subcontractors and material mark-ups. The total project costs amounted to \$2.531 million. Frederick asked what was left to be paid. Campbell estimated \$19,000, advising invoice was outstanding for industrial humidifiers. Isaacs-Niemesh commented. Frederick also asked about a pending item, brine tanks. Campbell responded. Discussion followed. Frederick stated Bulk Water revenue was lost in 2020. Campbell advised the Bulk Water meter was working when taken out of service and stored. It was not operative when reinstalled, causing a delay. Campbell advised he was yet awaiting invoices for the project. Discussion followed.

McKeehan discussed the \$50,000 annual payment required on the no interest loan. He stated we have now \$600,000 in Water Fund. Campbell stated we manage a lot of Water Plants and Towers and work with communities to ensure funding, grants are secured. The Booster Station in Roachester needs to be repaired as well as Water Tower and water mains in other areas. Campbell discussed underground piping, GIS and as built records. Councilman Zorn asked about the status of Well 3. Campbell advised it is working and in use; we now have a portable magnesium tester. The plants are being alternated. Proposed legislation was tabled to a subsequent meeting.

Motion by Frederick to table Water Plant discussion to the next meeting; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea.

Campbell requested legislation on use of insulated copper service connection to stop electric current from entering ductile iron pipe. He discussed the need. He advised it was a developer driven cost for new homes built, changing coupling from regular to insulated coupling would be needed. Discussion followed. Proposed legislation was tabled.

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Campbell provided information secured from ODOT regarding allowable traffic speed and signage for Main Street. He advised a study is required where speed is designated below 25 MPH for side streets that are not alleys. He stated the cost for such studies was expensive. Campbell stated ODOT advised they would not allow a waiver. The Mayor commented on the traffic and speed limit. Discussion followed.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Monthly Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements and Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation were provided.

Mayor Bryant stated the appearance of the Village is improved. He asked Mrs. Shump for information about a proposed dog grooming business. She stated the people are experienced in that line of work and are waiting for approval from John Poe's estate, after probate, to open the business and purchase a lot next door from Janet Poe.

Village Administrator Caroline Whitacre reported on the pilot for the Depot property, Saturday, September 26, Noon to 10pm. She stated the group of investors would have 3 music groups and food trucks at the Depot. The event is called *A Party at Park and Main*. Whitacre advised they have used community and social media to promote the event. The Mayor stated South Lebanon had problems with regard to not advertising bids to all parties for business property leases. Village Solicitor Kaspar stated he would look into it. Whitacre stated two new businesses are coming to Morrow: a used car business next to Cliff's Barber Shop with a limit of ten cars on the lot. Behind Viox, at the Point, a one half acre Store N Lock facility with an entrance on Kibbey is planned for Morrow. The Store N Lock will be enclosed.

The Administrator discussed a new Bobcat; pictures of the proposed purchase were provided to Council. She stated the cost would be \$41,127.80. The Mayor elaborated on the many uses for the Bobcat. Frederick asked if rental attachments would fit the equipment and where service was available for it. Police Chief Kilburn commented and advised attachments can be purchased; he recommended purchasing from Biggey rather than Eastman. Discussion followed. Zorn asked about the purchase process. Kilburn responded it is a State Bid. Frederick asked about funds for purchase. Fiscal Officer Tina Powell advised 50/50 from two line items based on potential use. Kilburn stated the tractor was used for salt as well as a bush hog for the road. The Police Chief advised the new equipment can also be used for stump grinding. Fiscal Officer Powell stated we have money in the Water budget and other funds that can be used. Discussion followed. Solicitor Kaspar advised since the proposed purchase is under \$45K, only an up and down vote was needed.

Motion by Frederick to authorize the Mayor or his designee to purchase the new bobcat; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea by roll call.

Councilman Zorn stated flags were at half-staff for Patriots Day. Two donated Deer Crossing signs from ODOT were received. He stated Jennifer Vale Hoskins contacted him. Rodney Galloway from Hoskins Funeral Home was present at the meeting; he requested a Deer Crossing sign to be installed near the funeral home on West Pike Street. Discussion followed. Rodney Galloway checked that a sign would be installed at their property. The response was yes. Zorn stated he would drop the signs off at the Public Works building.

Zorn asked about the status of the new signs for the Point. Frederick responded and also discussed a digital sign near the Village border between Salem Township and Morrow. He also advised he obtained pricing for that as well for a later date. Zorn advised the Tree Board changed the type of tree to be planted at the Point from Dogwood to Hawthorne. Mr. Anthony Richard quoted \$400 for 2 trees installed at the point. Discussion followed regarding location of the trees at the point. Zorn advised the location was approved for the planting, 10' on either side, the easement is permitted. Isaac-Niemesh raised question regarding the source of funds for trees. The Mayor commented.

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Public Forum

Cliff Kerr discussed an urgent water problem on his property which required his neighbor to move items from the property in order to complete the necessary work. Discussion followed. The Mayor advised a notice was issued with ten days to correct the problem. The Administrator advised the neighbor was scheduled in court on September 10th at 5pm. McKeehan commented. Solicitor Kaspar explained the legality and stated he could not advise Mr. Kerr in this matter. He advised if it is a Zoning Matter or trespassing is involved, the Village can act, a civil issue. Discussion Followed. The Mayor recommended Mr. Kerr be present for Mayor's Court on Thursday, September 10th.

Mrs. Shump asked about the event planned for September 26th. She wanted to know if Main Street would be shut down.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials Cont'd

Whitacre stated \$2 per person based on census is the commitment the Village made to be a Tree City, based on 1188 people in Morrow. Kaspar asked about planting on the property at the Point. Much discussion followed.

Motion by Frederick; second by Isaacs-Niemesh to suspend the rules. Motion by Frederick to eliminate the Tree Board; second by Steiner. Discussion followed. Motion Vacated /Tabled. All yea to table the motion by roll call.

Adjournment

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

Tina Powell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor