

Regular Session of Village Council

February 9, 2021

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 via Zoom or in person.

Jim Frederick – P

Jessica Smothers – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

Ben Steiner – P

Mike McKeehan – A

Paul Zorn – P

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion by Councilman Frederick to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 Regular Session; second by Councilwoman Smothers. All yeas by roll call. Motion carried.

Lee Hamilton / Re-Plat of Hazen Avenue

Mayor Bryant advised he contacted Shirley Browning, the property owner at 108 Hazen Avenue. Browning stated she had been in the property for 49 years and that was the way it was going to be. The Mayor stated he agreed with her; he stated his property was only inches onto Hamilton's property if the stakes were right. Hamilton stated he received the information and survey from Warren County. He discussed the three lots, 104, 106 and 108. Discussion followed. Mr. Hamilton advised whoever sells their property will need a survey.

Village Solicitor John Kaspar discussed concerns for the Village in the future. He advised a legal deed for the property in question was missing. Kaspar stated he was unwilling to recommend the Village respond as is. Hamilton advised his attorney recommended a quit claim deed with the consent of the neighbors. Frederick stated he felt Hamilton would need to sue the other property owners. Mayor Bryant advised he would sign for the one foot with legal advice from the attorney.

Kaspar advised people must accept the property he is willing to give. The County has no skin in the game. He referred Hamilton back to his attorney. He felt the process to this point was complete. Hamilton commented. Kaspar stated this route is foreclosed for him; he will need to pursue another route. The Mayor commented. Hamilton stated the surveyor did his due diligence. Kaspar stated the surveyor works for Hamilton. Discussion followed. Kaspar stated it is a quiet title issue; he referred to the legal description.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Monthly Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements, Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation were provided, along with the 2020 Annual Reports from Prosecuting Attorney Fornshell and the Warren County Drug Task Force.

Mayor Bryant advised he contacted the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Spring Yard Sale. Due to COVID 19, a decision has not been made regarding a 2021 Yard Sale. He also advised he was pleased with the work the Village Public Works employees completed applying salt to the roads during the evening and early morning. He stated there was a problem clearing and salting the streets with parking on both sides of the streets in the Woodlands; the snow was cleaned from the hills.

Village Administrator Caroline Whitacre informed Council she sent them a Power Point presentation on Phegley Park via e-mail. She indicated the Planning Commission met on February 4th for 2 hours to review the draft of the new Zoning Code. The code is being revised by Choice One Engineering. Whitacre advised the CDBG grant application for the Rehab of the Historic Morrow Railroad Depot was submitted successfully to the County. She also advised the Fiscal Officer was working with Duke Energy to get a street light at the

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corner of Front Street and Morrow Blackhawk. She advised that a resident of the Woodlands asked for a light there.

Whitacre advised a new Mexican restaurant was going in place of Sugar Run Grill, purchased by the owner of El Piquante, and will be opening soon.

Frederick advised Choice One Engineering's updated zoning code will be reviewed at the March 11th Planning Commission Meeting.

Councilman Zorn recommended everyone try the Fresh Market Restaurant. He commented on the ODNR website. Zorn discussed a broken utility pole on Welch Road being held up by tree branches. Mayor Bryant advised Duke Energy was out several months earlier to address the pole. The Administrator questioned if it was at the top of the hill. Zorn described the location; Whitacre advised Duke Energy would be contacted.

Isaacs-Niemesh inquired regarding the progress on the truck parking at the Plaza. The Administrator advised it was being incorporated into the new Zoning Code; she wished to make a modification in the codes. Frederick stated he brought up the situation and the variances at the recent Planning Commission meeting; he stated it needed more teeth and gave an example. Frederick stated they should be loading and unloading in back of the building only. The Administrator commented. Isaacs-Niemesh asked about the current policy. The Administrator advised the Village currently responds to complaints. Discussion followed.

Kaspar read the pending Resolution for the purchase of salt through Warren County.

Motion by Frederick to suspend the rules and waive three readings of Resolution #2-21; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea by roll call. Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adopt Resolution #2-21 authorizing the Mayor or the Administrator to enter into contract for 2021-2022 to purchase salt from Warren County; second by Zorn. All yea by roll call.

Kaspar advised three prior readings of the proposed Resolution for the pending zoning change for Todd's Fork Adventures were completed.

Motion by Councilman Steiner to adopt Resolution #3-21, approving the Zoning change for Todd's Fork Adventures, the 44 acre property parcel to the rear of Hopkins Street from R1 to B3; second by Frederick. All yea by roll call.

Motion by Frederick to support the Warren County Drug Task Force with a donation of \$1500; second by Zorn. All yea by roll call.

Mayor Bryant advised he wants to clean the town on May 1st. He wishes to start with five streets first. He stated there are a few houses that have outside walls missing as long as two years ago. Frederick asked if the Village could condemn them. Discussion followed. The Mayor commented; the ticket will be the warning.

Public Forum

Carmack asked the status of the Depot. Whitacre advised a grant is pending. The Mayor stated he wanted to move City Hall there. Discussion followed. The Administrator advised the investors are still interested in moving forward. Frederick stated a craft brewing company would allow them to get a liquor license.

Andrea Joffey asked if the roads in the Woodlands have been accepted. She stated per Mary Allen, Phase I was accepted at a recent virtual Board Meeting in the Woodlands. Mayor Bryant stated Shawn Campbell of Jones Warner Consultants allowed them to put the second coat of blacktop down. Mrs. Joffey stated parking on both sides is a concern; the plan is to connect the two sides of the Woodlands. She also stated Phase I was excused from paying

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the \$1000 to the association when the market was down. She advised Mary Allen stated there is a buy-in plus additional. The Mayor stated per Francis, the builder has nothing to do with it. Frederick asked where is the money from the period when the builders were collecting Home Owner Association fees. Joffey stated she pays \$300 a year; \$75,000 is the cash balance. Discussion followed. Mrs. Joffey stated she wants good open communication with the Village. She questioned parking moving to one side of the street. Frederick stated its mail versus parking. The Mayor stated fire hydrants and mail boxes will probably end up on the same side of the street; it is a post office issue. Discussion followed. The Mayor stated he would try to get an answer within a month.

Adjournment

Motion by Smothers to adjourn; second by Frederick. All yea by roll call.

Tina Powell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor