

Regular Session of Village Council

February 8, 2022; 6:00 pm

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 Solicitor, John Kaspar. The following members were present.

Mitchell Fisher
Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh
Mike McKeehan - A

Jim Frederick
Jessica Smothers - A
Ben Steiner

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to approve January 11, 2022 Regular Session made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Fisher. All yea. Councilmembers McKeehan and Smothers were absent.

David McCandless, District Representative for Congressman Steve Chabot

Mr. McCandless updated council on the area and how it has grown. In the last census Warren County increased by 13%. The district office is located at 11 S. Broadway Street, Suite 30 Lebanon, Ohio and is always available for a tour. District offices have two main lines of effort: constituent service work and community outreach. Community outreach includes ground breakings, ribbon cuttings, chamber events, council meetings among other things. Constituent service work provides assistance to anyone who lives in the district who is having a problem with a federal agency.

Mr. McCandless also provided information about Congressman Steve Chabot. Mr. Chabot is currently on the House Judiciary committee as well as the ranking member of the House Asia and subcommittee. Mr. Chabot was previously on the Small Business Committee. Discussion followed.

Shawn Campbell, Jones Warner Consultants

Mr. Campbell requested council to move on two items for the Woodlands of Morrow. First, the paving project on Morrow Blackhawk Road is complete. Dan Fisher on behalf of the developer is asking for an amendment to the original PUD. The original PUD included turn lanes at the entrance of the Woodlands. The Village council along with the developer agreed to widen that location and pave Morrow Blackhawk Road instead of placing turn lanes. An updated PUD is requested removing the turn lanes.

Second, a request for beginning the project of the water booster station. A packet included in the minutes has a breakdown. Jones Warner would like to proceed in ordering the components now in order to be sure the equipment is available when it is time to build. Three bids were received and Shawn is asking for approval for spending \$171,277.00 for 4 components outlined in packet. The labor and some material are not covered in the price and will be bid out closer to time of building. Discussion followed.

Resolution authorizing mayor as designee to purchase water booster station components from Besco with a motion to suspend the rules. Motion to suspend the rules was made by councilman Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea. Motion to adopt was made by Frederick; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea. Motion carries.

Phil Kaufman, Water Operator

Phil presented a water tap fee structure to council suggesting that the Village needs to set a structure for water tap fee cost. Currently the only tap fee cost for the Village is for a 5/8" meter/single family dwelling. Phil would like council to set fees for anything larger than a 5/8" tap which is typically for commercial. Phil provided council with the steps to make a water tap and a suggested tap fee schedule. Council asked for rates from surrounding communities for comparison.

Phil also mentioned his opinion on what is needed for a new pick up truck for the Village. His ideas were a work truck package and strobe lights. Phil was not sure prices yet because he is waiting to hear who has the state bid.

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 for Council

Mayor praised the Maintenance crew for doing a great job during the ice and snow. The mayor also stated that he would like to have a meeting at the end of March inviting the public in regards to what needs to be done with the depot.

Administrator spoke with the head of the HOA at the Woodlands of Morrow in regards to additional stop signs in the subdivision. There is need for a three way stop because people are going to fast coming down the hill on Alpine Heights Drive. The HOA has agreed to pay for the stop signs. Council agreed that if there is a need, take care of it. Another issue in the Woodlands is gaps in the sidewalks. The Administrator has spoken with Dan Fisher and he has agreed to finish all the gaps in the sidewalks. One other issue is a speed limit sign that needs replaced and the HOA requested to take care of that.

Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh asked about what Chief Heath Kilburn discovered in his State meeting regarding zoning. Chief Kilburn would like to have a working session after a meeting with the Administrator and the Zoning Inspector. Isaacs-Niemesh also asked if there was an update on the items that need to be sold.

Councilman Fisher stated that when it comes to updating the zoning code he would like to see more depth and detail in the junk section. Discussion followed. Fisher stated that he was able to meet all of the members of the HOA's in the Woodlands of Morrow.

Resolution #1-22 authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement to purchase road salt from Warren County for 2022-2023 and suspend the rules. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Steiner; second by Frederick. All yea.

Solicitor presented another resolution on litigation that has concluded in the case of Cain vs. the Village of Morrow. The Village of Morrow is a member of P.E.R.S.O. who litigated the case and is requesting a deductible that is part of the PERSO coverage. PERSO has requested to be reimbursed. Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to pay the Village's 15% percent of the total expenses and to suspend the rules. Motion to suspend the rules made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Fisher. All yea. Motion to adopt Steiner; second by Frederick. All yea.

The mayor requested volunteers from council to be appointed to Warren County Regional Planning Commission. Jim Frederick volunteered and Mitchell Fisher volunteered to be his back up. All council voted yea.

Public Forum

Amy Brewer, retired Mayor of Lebanon, stated she is running for County Commissioner. Mrs. Brewer stated that she wants to be a voice for small towns and loves to be involved with the community. She would like to be a representative for the community.

Paul Zorn asked a few questions regarding the tree board and stated that the VFW will be replacing the flags at Memorial Park when the weather gets better.

Adjournment

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

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council
& Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor