

Regular Session of Village Council

January 10, 2023; 6:30 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.

Kiley Dane

Jim Frederick

Mike McKeehan

Mitchell Fisher

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh

Ben Steiner

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to approve December 13, 2022 Regular Session made by Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea, Dane abstained. Motion to approve December 13, 2022 Special Session made by Fisher; second by Frederick. All yea, Dane abstained.

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.

Appointment of Vice Mayor

The mayor called for the first order of business, appointing the Vice Mayor for the new year. The nomination for Becky Isaacs-Niemesh was made by Steiner, second by Dane. All yea, Isaacs-Niemesh abstained.

Salem-Morrow Fire Department – Chief Harrison

Chief Harrison updated the Mayor and council on the Fire department. 2022 was the biggest year yet for the Fire department with 1,161 runs. Chief introduced the Assistant Chief John Moenster who will be taking over for the chief upon his retirement in a couple years. The departments newest purchases are a medic unit and a new tanker. Both are critical needs for the department. Chief discussed the fire departments role during the "weather bomb" on December 23rd that knocked the power out for over 12 hours. The chief thanked his workers, the police department, Hamilton Township and Harlan Township fire departments along with many other people for stepping up and helping in the time of need.

Jones Warner Consultants – Joe Zistler

Mr. Zistler updated council on the Woodlands of Morrow Booster Station and Check Valve. Mr. Zistler informed council of the purpose of both of these elements in the overall operation of the water system. Once complaints from customers in the Woodlands began regarding their water pressure, it was discovered that Ryan Homes was placing pressure reducing valves in every home. These are not required in any homes in the Woodlands. The pressure reducing valves and some water softeners were causing internal pressure issues. The last item to help with pressure will come in the next 4-6 months and will be an automated valve in the Water Treatment Plant. Discussion followed regarding the power outage that occurred on December 23rd. The water and maintenance workers worked tirelessly over the Christmas weekend battling the weather and water pressure levels in the storage tanks. The following week, water line breaks occurred in the Village but were quickly found and repaired.

Planning and Zoning

The Village Zoning Inspector, Vic Center, discussed a zoning change on a piece of property adjacent to the PineRidge Nursing Home. The new owner of this piece of property will be building a 50 x 50 manufacturing building, which will necessitate a zoning change from B3 to I1. Mr. Center has been specific on exactly how the front should look in order to keep the building looking more professional. Mr. Center wanted to bring this before council to make sure this was something they would be interested in for the Village. Solicitor Kaspar

informed Center that approval by the planning commission was necessary and owners of adjacent properties need to be consulted. If the planning commission approves then they will bring this back to council with a recommendation.

Village Officials

The Mayor thanked council, workers and everyone in the Village for a great year in 2022. The plaza is being cleaned up and new signs are also being placed. The Mayor also stated that a previous councilmember, Julia Clark passed away.

The Administrator updated council on Phegley Park. Production of the new playground equipment will begin in the next week with delivery planned for three to four weeks later. Second, citizens in the Woodlands contacted the Administrator to have a meeting with Duke Energy and discuss frequent power outages as well as the event that happened on December 23rd. Duke would like to discuss with the Administrator first then meet with the public. Thirdly, an updated Notable Events for the Plaza was placed in council's packet. The Village is now receiving rent and has hired a part-time employee to help with items specific to the Plaza. Discussion followed regarding the Ruff House Pet Resort unit which is now vacant. Finally, the Community Development Block Grant deadline is Friday, January 13th and the administrator offered three possibilities for the grant: 1. Demolition of the Grocery Store Space. 2. Paving of the Parking Lot with new curbs and tree lawns. 3. Signage All 3 items are in reference to the Plaza. Council decided to request the grant for the most visually appealing, #2 Paving of the Parking Lot with new curbs and tree lawns.

Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh asked if progress had been made in regards to the portable speed limit sign with the option of an additional data package. This quote was received from A&A Safety. Whitacre stated that she will look into the quotes given and move forward with possible help from the Woodlands HOA.

The floor was open to the public. Andrea Joffe stated that she and her husband will be the new stewards of the Little Free Library in Phegley Park and the Woodlands. Paul Zorn requested a new light pole at the end of Highlawn Avenue.

Motion to adjourn to executive session requested by the Mayor to discuss personnel matters. Motion was made by Steiner; second Frederick. All yea.

Motion to return to regular session made by Steiner; second by Fisher. All yea.

Motion was made to raise the salary of Chief Kilburn by \$1 per hour. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Steiner; second by Fisher. All yea. Motion was made by Steiner; second by Fisher. All yea.

Adjournment

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

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council
& Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor