

Village Council Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015

On Tuesday, April 21, 2015 Council met in regular session. Present were Mayor Tom Johnson, Council President Dave Snider, Council members Mike Lally, Bill Mohler, Doug Ferhman, Linda Henery. Also attending were Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer, Jane Foulk, Mayor's Assistant and Will Flautt, Village Solicitor.

Guests: Casey Sargel, reporter, Mike Henery

Pledge of Allegiance - Tom

Reading of Previous Minutes – Tom

Linda wanted to clarify the minutes from April 7, 2015.

She had been asked by several residents why we have employees using the village garage to work on their personal vehicles during work hours. She doesn't care that they use the garage but her concern is the responsibility, so she addressed it to our Insurance man, Kevin Howell, of Wichert Ins., who said we would need to have something for them to sign that the village would not be held responsible for any injury or damage to them or their vehicles. Kevin also said that we are opening a can of worms because if we let one person then if someone complains we would need to allow them to use the garage as well. Her concern also is that we already lost a garage due to fire and do we want that responsibility?

Linda also clarified the issue with residents putting their trash into village dumpsters, stating it is Theft of Services.

The sidewalk issue is based on the Ohio revised Code 723.011 which states that the Village could make an ordinance for homeowners to be responsible for the sidewalks. Her questions were on the responsibility and who it falls upon without an ordinance?

Also Cary Bowers of the Health Department wants the Chief to go with him to the West Main Street home of Jerry McKee, concerning the trash at his residence.

Also she noted that kids are walking into the street around cars parked at Cooperrider's body shop to get to school.

Doug clarified from the last minutes that he has no problem with Ron using the garage. And Linda doesn't either.

Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Doug, seconded by Linda. All voted Aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Vandenmark met with Jerry McKee. Jerry said that his son is coming soon to help clean up his property. He agreed that it needed to be done.

Village Garage: Bill said it is our property (garage) and we can use it as we see fit. As long as employees get the job done in the time allotted. No legal concern per Will. Ins co. is cautious. Will is going to talk to Kevin Howell. Dave said he had no problem with employees using the Village garage, everyone agreed.

Doug moved and Bill seconded to let employees use the garage for his own vehicles to work on. Bill seconded. Roll call vote, all yeas with one abstention (Linda).

SIDEWALK:

Regarding the issue of who is responsible for the sidewalks, the Village or the property owner? Will had not had time to research the issue, but said the Village could pass an ordinance that if people do not keep their sidewalk clean, village is not responsible. Linda worried about liability. Tom asked Will to talk to Kevin: Is there a liability for the village or not. Will said his reading of ordinance is that we have ability to apply sanctions if public doesn't keep their sidewalks clear. He will do more research on this.

HIGH ST:

Standing water on High Street will be addressed by Mitch Altier. Tom asked Dave and Mitch to check out issue with drain pipe in field at Pearl Bussey residence. It was in 2001 minutes. Mike Henery said he has the same problem. Linda was asked to get receipts from Pearl and turn in at next meeting.

TRASH:

Issues regarding problem alleys, residents putting their trash in the Village trash containers and kids walking in the street around cars parked at Cooperriders were not addressed again.

Police Employment Status. Jeremy wants to make Jason 35 hours and Jeff 40 hours. Jeff has to have a complete physical and drug and alcohol testing this week. Doug moved to approve both resolutions 15-11 for Jason and 15-12 for Jeff as full time officer. Linda seconded. Roll call vote. All yeas.

Streetscape Update. Tom said if bids come in low, we will spend the whole signage budget, if bids come in high, the difference will be taken out of the signage budget. We need to focus in on the design elements and use the verbiage off of photos. Where businesses are, where restaurants are, about our history, directions, etc. will be available on a kiosk. Tom said let's wait on kiosk until later. We have applied for a \$10,000 grant to develop the stories to be put on signposts and markers. Murals are also being discussed, but Tom suggested we get broader interaction and input with residents about murals. There is an Art teacher at Sheraton who would be good to work with on murals. Tom asked Jane contact the teacher and see if she would be interested in working with us. Linda has her name. The big sheets passed out have photos of ideas for the story-telling signs. Tom thinks they are all too modern. South Zanesville, across from Wendy's, there is a big elegant sign we should look at. Tom said we should have historical rather than modern signage. There also was a discussion about Gateway (entrance to the square) elements. Council decided to table the sign discussion for later.

New Business

Grants Update –Tom presented a spreadsheet that Mitch prepared which shows all our

Energy Savings – Tom said we can discuss this at our next meeting.

ODOT is coming tomorrow to review Emerald Necklace Phase IV.

Appalachian grants want local share.

Water system improvements. (Spillway)

Sewer – OWDA loan. Tom said we have a formal sewer system capital improvement plan, which Julie Ward has been working with BPA. Julie will present at next Council meeting. Tom said we are looking at an OWDA paving project.

Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel reached out to mayors, commissioners and BPAs concerning a new financial reporting system that will involve all governmental agencies in Ohio. A handout was passed out and it will be on the next meeting agenda to discuss. Josh, or one of his staff may be invited to make a presentation.

Summer Youth Project – Tom is working with Jeremy to come up with a program. He is also still working on the possibility of having 20 kids, 16-18, to spend 5 days at Hocking College, staying in residence halls, etc. Tom would like to have the Chief to spend time with them and take them through academy program. We would also like to look into funding a camp for 13-16 age range. If Council is interested, we would like to come up with a cost estimate for younger teens. It probably would cost \$1000-\$2000. Kelly suggested we should also include Maria’s message. Bring in Dom Tiberi to talk about distracted driving.

Pay Ordinance – A new router on sewer would cost \$77,000. Bill moved and Dave seconded to pass pay ordinance. Roll call vote. All yeas.

Water and Sewer Review. Julie finished the sewer review and is now working on the water review. She thinks the sewer rates are affordable for our residents but thinks our water rates are on the high end already and she is concerned.

Public Comments

Doug told about going out last night to see how water and sewer guys were doing. He was very impressed with them and they should be commended for their good work.

Agenda for next week – storm drainage funding.

Adjournment 8:25. Motion to adjourn by Doug, seconded by Mike. Roll call vote, all yeas.

Tom Johnson, Mayor

Dave Snider, President

Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer