

Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday July 7, 2015.

Present were Mayor Tom Johnson, President David Snider, and members Eric Huston, Doug Fehrman, Mike Lally, Bill Mohler and Linda Henery. Also employees, Kelly Beem, Jane Foulk, Chief Vandermark. Village Solicitor Will Flautt was also present.

Guests included: Paul Prater from AEP with John Smith, Tree specialist for AEP. Fire Chief Eric Emmert, Kathryn Padgett, Suze Litzinger, Mike Henery and BPA member Dick Pettit. Casey Sargel from Tribune was there as well.

Mayor Johnson opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor read the minutes from the previous meeting on June 16th. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by David. All voted aye.

Tom called upon Paul Prater to speak. Paul states that every 4 years, they come around to Villages and towns to inspect trees. They will trim and cut down trees that are in their right of ways, or in their overhead wires. They will also look at the health of trees. This will save the Village money in having to hire this out. Tom will give Paul a tree inventory and a person name and contact information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Streetscape Project: The contract was awarded to The Shelly Co., but their bid exceeded our price by \$17,000.00. Tom is checking to see if there is a gap in funds from ODOT, but if not, The Council will have to pay the \$17,000.00. Tom asked for the Street Committee to watch over project and make sure everything is getting completed. Motion was made by Doug, seconded by David to authorize the payment of \$17,000.00 to Shelly Co., All voted Aye. We have an estimate from Mike Fehrman to remove 12 trees, 1 tree & stump, and 1 stump for \$2400.00. Tom thinks that there are 17 trees that need removed and requested to approve a 10% adjustment on Mike's bill to remove all of the trees. Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Mike. All voted Aye except Doug Fehrman, abstained.

Doug states that he has someone who is willing to take the plants, like hostas to a greenhouse nursery and will replant them when the project is complete.

Medical Mutual: Kelly informs council that Wichert Insurance, Jeff Cashman could not find another plan to reduce our monthly premium without increase the deductible for employees. Kelly shared a cost analysis for them to consider. We could make employee contribute 5 or 10% to offset the 18% increase in premium. Currently the employees are only paying \$25.00 a month, and Doug commented that he would like to keep it that way, because we have great employees. David motioned to renew the Medical Mutual Coverage, and to keep the employee contribution as it has been at \$25.00 a month. Bill seconded. All voted Aye.

CDBG Income Survey: Kelly is working with Melissa Zoller at Buckeye Hills to creating a list of residents to be surveyed. Melissa will then get back with Kelly to schedule a work meeting and to go over the correct procedure.

NEW BUSINESS:

Employee Job Descriptions: Kelly created a job description for all the employees of the Village. This was asked for by Mayor Johnson to go along with the employee performance evaluations. Each council member was given a copy to review and discuss at next meeting. Chief Vandermark gave Kelly job descriptions for the Police department as well.

Waste Management Contract: Our contract with them ends in Sept. 2015. Tom is disappointed in their Community Investment. Will Flautt is to check if we need to rebid this or can we just resign with them.

Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement: Ordinance 15-04 is to establish a Video Service Provider Fee to be paid by any video service provider offering video service in the Village. We will receive on a quarterly basis 5% of the gross revenues. Doug motioned to approve seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Resolution 15-19 to adopt the findings of the report "Increasing Energy Efficiency in a four County region of Appalachian Ohio" funded by Ohio Local Government Innovation Fund. Tom handed out a booklet explaining what this is, and asked the Council to review and discuss at the next meeting for approval.

Tom reports that RCAP came to the Office, and Water & Wastewater plants to evaluate the efficiency of operations, and will create a cost saving report.

Tom is looking into Broadband through Connect Ohio. This would make it more affordable for residents in Somerset, plus allow them free Wi-Fi on the square. He wants to put an antenna on a water tower.

Tom handed out Resolution 15-05 to the Council for review and discussion at next meeting. This is for An Electricity Aggregation Program and will need passed as an emergency measure to be placed on the November ballot. This governmental aggregation provides an opportunity for residential and small business customers collectively to participate in the potential benefits of electricity deregulation through lower electric rates which they would not otherwise be able to have individually.

The Council reviewed the Pay Ordinance 15-19. David motioned to accept, seconded by Linda. All voted Aye.

We are still waiting on The St. Joe's survey so we can close on the property. There are 138 acres and 31/2 acres has federal structures on it.. We need easements and access rights before we can close. Any Knisley will do survey and Will Flautt will be involved as well.

Tom states that we should know by next Monday if the Bike Path and Streetscape II is awarded.

Tom asked Police Chief Vandermark to speak regarding property at 136 E. Main St. Chief states that there have been many complaints about garbage and trash everywhere. He talked to the Owner and the tenant and they have started to clean the property. The Council wants the property to be kept cleaned at all times. A motion by Linda, seconded by David, to issue a citation to both the tenant and landlord to clean up the property, or charges will be filed. All voted aye except Bill, he abstained.

A motion to suspend rules and go into executive session to discuss personnel matters was made by Mike, seconded by bill. All voted Aye. A motion to go into executive session was made by David, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye. Executive session started at 8:25pm.

At 8:41pm the Council returned from Executive session. Doug motioned, seconded by Bill to return with no action taken. All voted Aye.

Doug motioned to allow the Police chief pay \$11,000.00 to settle a claim that was filed. Linda seconded. All voted Aye.

David asks the council to approve a pay increase for the Mayor to \$9600.00 a year, beginning with the new term in January 2016. Bill seconded it. All voted Aye.

Emerald Necklace Phase II. We need to do signage and handicap benches yet, and costs about \$11,000.00. Eric motions to approve expenditures, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

The BPA has a pump station completely down on Fancy Street. Mitch Altier gave them a cost estimate of \$40,546.00 to repair. The BPA approved this estimate and now needs approval from council for an Emergency measure. Dough motioned to approve up to \$41,000.00 for the replace of a pump and costs for labor, seconded by David. All voted Aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Eric Emmert , Fire Chief reports that a hydrant is broke at the base on S. Columbus Street. It is out of service and has been for a while now. Kelly will talk to Paul about it.

Doug states that he and Bill were outside of Courthouse and there is an electrical plug hazard. He talked with Waibler Electric to repair, which is \$275.00. He will ground the wire. Motion to approve repair was made by Doug, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

David says the 4th of July Parade and Fireworks was first rate. He was very impressed.

With no further business to discuss, Bill motioned to adjourn at 9:05pm, seconded by Linda. All voted Aye.

Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer

David Snider, President of Council

Mayor, Thomas Johnson