

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm on January 6, 2014.

INVOCATION

Clapper offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

The Honorable Judge Robert C. Hickson, Jr. officiated the Oath of Office to the following elected members of Council: Timothy Clapper, James Gress, Kay Hines and Emily Shaffer.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council answered roll call; Tim Clapper, John Curtis, Jim Gress, Kay Hines, Ed Kline, Emily Shaffer. The Clerk declared a quorum. Mayor Mike Porter, Solicitor Matt Griffith, Administrator Dan Rogers and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Mermann were present.

MINUTES

Shaffer moved and Hines seconded to approve the 12/16/13 minutes. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Hines yes, Kline yes, Gress yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes.

ANNUAL COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

Clapper moved, Kline seconded to appoint Shaffer Council President Pro Tempore for the coming year. Roll call; Clapper yes, Kline yes, Shaffer yes, Hines yes, Curtis yes, Gress yes.

Shaffer moved, Curtis seconded to continue to meet on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM; to meet the second Monday only in July and August, and to meet on Tuesday September 2nd rather than the first Monday, which would be Labor Day. Roll; Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Gress yes, Hines yes, Kline yes.

Shaffer moved, Hines seconded to continue the Council Rules of Procedure with no changes. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Hines yes, Kline yes, Gress yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes.

Shaffer moved and Kline seconded, to retain Attorneys Griffith & Brininger as Village Solicitors. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Kline yes, Hines yes, Gress yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes.

Shaffer stated that committee appointments would be announced soon.

GUESTS

Guests included Shanna Gress, Brian Gress, Al Gress, Cecil George, Greg Young, Brian Zerman, and Randa Wagner from the Sentinel. Wagner was excused following the photo session to comply with the Level III Snow Emergency in Crawford County.

Mr. George questioned the policy and procedure for issuing shut-off notices for late utility payments, stating that he was life-long resident of the Village and that he received a notice on 10/17/13 for non-payment of the bill. While he pays the late fee each month without a problem, the shut-off notice should not have been sent. The Mayor explained that the collection of the outstanding balances has become increasingly difficult. The utility bills are mailed before the beginning of each month and are late if not paid by the 15th of each month. Mermann stated the policy and procedure are in compliance with Chapter 911 of the Codified Ordinances. The net amount is due within 15 days of the bill date, a late fee of 10% is charged after the 15th of the month and service may be discontinued for non-payment. Because Mr. George refused to pay the \$25.00 disconnect fee, it continued to accrue late fees on the outstanding balance. Clapper offered to consider Mr. George's complaint in the Utility Committee but stated it appears the proper procedures are being followed and the best interest of the Village must also be considered. Mermann stated that since Mr. George's account has been kept current since October and he has agreed to keep the account current the disconnect fee and late charges could be waived.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman reported 200 calls for service, 13 suspicious person reports, 6 felonies, 6 accidents and 39 charges during December.

FIRE CHIEF-GREG YOUNG

Chief Young reported a total of 22 responses since 12/16/13, including 1 structure fire, 3 lines-down, 1 chimney fire, 4 mutual aid calls, 5 traffic accidents, and 1 EMS assist. Council briefly discussed the number of calls to the S. Delaware St. apartment complex. Chief Young explained that many of the calls are from handicapped residents who fall asleep while cooking food. Burned food could easily become a fire and is therefore not considered a false alarm.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-JOHN CURTIS

The committee is scheduled to meet at on 1/16/14 at 6:00 PM.

FIRE & POLICE-KAY HINES

The committee is scheduled to meet with Chief Zerman and Chief Young on 1/14/14 at 6:00 PM at the Fire Station.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-

The committee will meet at 6:45 on 1/20/14. Chairman will be appointed.

UTILITIES-TIM CLAPPER

The committee is scheduled to meet at 5:45 on 1/20/14.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-ED KLINE

The committee is scheduled to meet on 1/16/14 at 6:30 PM.

CODES & REGULATIONS-EMILY SHAFFER

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 PM on 2/3/14.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers reported continuing rain and melting snow have caused record flows in excess of 4,000,000 gallon per day and 18" of water in the basement at the WWTP.

The Septage Receiving revenue, estimated at \$37,000.00, is currently between \$40,000.00 and \$45,000.00, which offsets the cost of sludge hauling from the WWTP.

Current temperatures of well below zero are an additional concern at the WTP. Emergency precautions are necessary until the ceiling repairs are completed. Insurance adjusters have visited the site but have not released the estimated costs. Contractors will be at the plant tomorrow.

The Mayor signed the County Sheriff's radio contract at \$1,000.00 with an additional \$6.42 per radio per month (\$1,077.04) for the first 6 months. In July the additional price per radio will increase from \$6.42 to \$12.50 per month. Rogers stated the cost would be worth it if the system worked better. He has requested a copy of the signed contract.

A meeting with Ohio Edison will determine if the increased costs proposed by Solar Planet will halt any further plans for the WWTP.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

Mayor Porter congratulated the re-elected members of Council along with newly elected Council member Jim Gress, and welcomed Jim's wife Shanna, his son Brian and his father, Al Gress. Former Council member, Al Gress commended the Council for continuing to be fiscally stable despite an unstable economic environment.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

No report.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Curtis moved and Clapper seconded to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$523,843.33. Roll call; Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Gress yes, Hines yes, Kline yes, Shaffer yes.

Kline moved and Hines seconded to suspend the rules for the reading of Resolution 1-6-14.

Roll call; Kline yes, Hines yes, Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Gress yes.

Mermann reminded Council that every member of Council must attend the Open Records Training once during every term on Council and that Gress must also comply with NIMS regulations.

Resident and former Fire Chief Staiger agreed to serve on the Fire Fighter's Dependent's Fund Board;

Kline agreed to serve as Chairman and Curtis agreed to serve as Secretary.

We are still waiting for the signed copy of the Gilead Twp Fire Contract and the Morrow County Sheriff's Radio Agreement.

OTHER

Clapper moved and Gress seconded to send a letter to the Ohio Legislatures in support of the State Issue I OPWC funding. Roll call; Clapper yes, Gress yes, Curtis yes, Hines yes, Kline yes, Shaffer yes.

Gress moved and Hines seconded to adjourn at 7:55 PM.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator