

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on March 2, 2015.

## **INVOCATION**

Shaffer offered the Invocation.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

The following members of Council answered roll call; Tim Clapper, John Curtis, Steve Hart, 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 Kline seconded to approve the 2/16/15 minutes with the correction that Clapper agreed to serve as Chairman of the Long Term Planning Committee. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Kline yes, Hines yes, Curtis abstained, Clapper yes, Hart abstained.

## **GUESTS**

Guests included Donna Carver from the Sentinel and Greg Young.

## **POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN**

Chief Zerman was excused. The written report was reviewed briefly, noting 175 calls for service, 25 reports, 10 accidents and 83 charges.

## **FIRE CHIEF-GREG YOUNG**

Chief Young reported 10 responses including 4 mutual aid calls, 1 vehicle accident, 2 vehicle fires, and 1 elevator rescue.

## **COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **STREETS-JOHN CURTIS**

No report.

### **FIRE & POLICE-KAY HINES**

Hines reported meeting with Chief Zerman, Sgt. Cronenwett and Detective Foley. Chief Zerman reported on the impact of the drastic cuts to the 2015 Budget, comparing the past 5 years that the department stayed within the projected budget. Hines stated the Chief is aware the department will be reduced to six Officers rather than the current seven. The committee agreed no one wants to see a time when an Officer is not available when needed. The in-depth discussions addressed Comp-time, over-time, holidays, and scheduling as well as supplies, including ammunition, and training costs.

Hines accompanied Officer Rinker on 2/20/15 and reported she was impressed with his professional manner and appreciated having an Officer of his quality serving the community. Hines stressed that Chief Zerman should be responsible for his budget and the structure of it. Kline reported he has gained a new respect for the amount and quality of the work Detective Foley handles; that we are not aware of the number of serious crimes within the Village.

### **FINANCE & PERSONNEL-EMILY SHAFFER**

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 PM on 3/16/15.

### **UTILITIES-TIM CLAPPER**

The committee met on 2/23/15 and reviewed the declining fund balance of the Sewer Fund. Several options were considered, including a future rate increase.

Clapper reported the Long Range Planning Committee met to discuss a transitional plan for the future retirement/replacement of the Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer and Mayor's Court Clerk. Clapper stated Administrator Rogers plans to retire in four years; Clerk Richards has announced plans to retire in November 2015 and Clerk-Treasurer Mermann will not seek reelection in November 2015. The current Utility Clerk will assume the position of Mayor's Court

Clerk. The major concern for the committee is the Clerk-Treasurer's position which the committee is recommending become an appointed position. Clapper and Shaffer both reported many villages, including Cardington and Sunbury, have already switched to appointed fiscal officers with no problems. Clapper stated the future appointed officer would report to Council. Curtis stated he felt the change to the form of government needed more time to consider, he cited the successful history of the elected position, the salary of an appointed position, and the proposed increase to the Village income taxes were all issues that should be considered. Hines recommended that Council consider pros and cons of the proposed changes. Mermann stated there are advantages and disadvantages to both the elected and appointed positions but recommended the position remain elected and noted that several well-qualified and competent residents have expressed a desire to seek the elected position. Clapper stated one advantage would be that the appointed employee could be hired from outside the Village. Kline noted he would prefer hiring from within the Village and that currently only one employee of the Village actually lives within the Village. Clapper moved and Kline seconded to authorize the Solicitor prepare a resolution to change the Clerk-Treasurer position to an appointed position. Roll call; Clapper yes, Kline yes, Curtis no, Shaffer yes, Hines yes, Hart yes. Kline reminded Council the Board of Elections would need to be aware of the change before the first of May. The Mayor recommended that the Council members contact other communities before the first reading of the proposed resolution. The committee is scheduled to meet on 3/12/15 at 6:00 PM.

#### **VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-ED KLINE**

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 PM on 3/9/15 to begin the Nathan Tucker Award process for 2015.

Kline reported Chris Arndt has resigned from the Mt. Gilead CIC.

#### **CODES & REGULATIONS-STEVE HART**

No report.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS**

Rogers listed the grants and projects that have caused a reduction in the carry-over balance in the Sewer and Sewer Capital Improvement Funds.

Melting snow and rain combined to cause record flows reported at the WWTP.

Rogers reported he signed an agreement with Integrity Energy, which is a three-year natural gas service, and with Energy.Me, which is a five-year electric fixed price agreement.

T-Mobile agreed to pay \$4,000.00 for the easement to bore a fiber optic line to their pedestal at the water tower. Rogers reported Time Warner is installing the equipment.

Morrow County Prosecutor has approved the US EPA Phase I and Phase II cleanup at the former HPM/Taylor site.

Recurring problems with the municipal building furnace have been repaired.

#### **MAYOR-MIKE PORTER**

Mayor Porter issued an invitation to Council to attend Tree City in Bellefontaine on 4/16/15.

Arbor Day is scheduled for the end of April.

#### **SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER**

No report.

#### **CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN**

Clapper moved and Kline seconded to approve payment of the bills. Roll call; Clapper yes, Kline yes, Hart yes, Hines yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes.

Hines moved and Kline seconded to suspend the rules for the reading of Resolution 2-16-15.

Roll call; Hines yes, Kline yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Hart yes. Hines moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the resolution authorizing an ODNR Grant application. Roll call:

Hines yes, Shaffer yes, Kline yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Kline moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules for the reading of Resolution 2-16-15A.

Roll call; Kline yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Hines yes, Hart yes. Hart moved and Clapper seconded to adopt the resolution authorizing the purchase of real estate. Roll call: Hart yes, Clapper yes, Hines yes, Curtis no, Shaffer yes, Kline yes.

Ordinance 1714 was presented for the third reading. Clapper moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the income tax reciprocity ordinance. Roll call; Clapper yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Curtis no, Kline yes, Hines yes.

Hines moved and Kline seconded to suspend the rules for the reading of Ordinance 1716. Roll call: Hines yes, Kline yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Hart yes. Hines moved and Kline seconded to adopt the Fire Fighter salary ordinance. Roll call; Hines yes, Kline yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Hart yes.

Ordinance 1717 was presented for the first reading. Clapper moved and Hines seconded to pass the Supplemental Appropriation ordinance to the second reading. Roll call; Clapper yes, Hines yes, Hart yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Kline yes,

Mermann reported receiving \$4,000.00 for wages reimbursement from METRICH for Detective Foley.

Council was encouraged to attend the upcoming Auditor of State Local Government Officials Conference in April.

#### **OTHER**

Kline reported County Commissioner Whiston would attend the Gilead Township Trustees' meeting on 3/5/15 to seek answers about the Township Road Levy.

Mayor Porter welcomed Steve Hart who is serving the unexpired term until December 31, 2017.

Hines stated it is the intent of the Gilead Township Trustees to place a Cemetery Levy on the November ballot. The levy will be discussed at the Joint Meeting in May.

Clapper moved and Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

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Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Porter, Mayor

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Dan Rogers, Administrator