

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on January 21, 2008.

INVOCATION

Shaffer offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Porter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following answered roll call; John Curtis, Steve Hart, Darrell Levings, Emily Shaffer, Keith Strait, and Betty Williams. The Clerk declared a quorum.

MINUTES

Shaffer moved and Strait seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call: Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Levings yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

GUESTS

Guests included Jim and Kim Fleeson, Don Staiger, Jennifer Wallis, and Brian Zerman. Wallis brought a question from a County resident to Council attention of whether the Council would continue to meet on Martin Luther King Day. Council discussed the long-standing schedule of meeting on the first and third Monday of each month. Currently, the village observes 11 holidays, but does not close for Martin Luther King Day or President's Day or Columbus Day. Williams moved and Curtis seconded to take the question to the Finance & Personnel Committee. Roll call; Williams yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Strait yes, Levings no, Shaffer yes.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman commended Captain Underwood, Detective Mills, Attorneys Stamolis and Yager and the County Prosecutor's office for the successful conviction last week of the man accused the 2001 armed robbery of First Federal Bank. Sentencing is scheduled for February 29th.

Council agreed on the final numbers for the financial settlement of the 12/27/07 traffic accident involving the 2006 cruiser; \$11,975.00 for the vehicle and \$5,514.00 for the replacement of the damaged and/or destroyed equipment. The cost of the new cruiser and equipment will be \$7,963.00 over the insurance settlement.

The 2007 year-end report was reviewed briefly. Chief Zerman's main concerns include an increase in domestic and drug charges. Residents are becoming more aware of suspicious persons and situations and are alerting the officers. Council commended Zerman for the informative and comprehensive report.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger reported 20 responses in the first 2 weeks for the new year.

Only a few firefighters still need to complete the NIMS (National Incident Management System) requirements. The past 2 weekends have been dedicated to the training and testing of the firefighters and police officers. Within the next 2 weeks, it is expected that all firemen will have successfully completed the training and passed the Homeland Security tests. Other village leaders, including Council, Mayor, and Clerk-Treasurer may be required to pass less stringent tests.

The chief met with the Fire & Police committee on 1-8-08 and discussed replacing the ADT alarm system at the station. Morrow Telephone is the only monitoring alarm system in the area and could replace the current system for a cost of \$1,930.00.

The Cardington Central Ohio Training Academy is closing. The Mt. Gilead department could assume the training classes and conduct the paper work and certifications for the 36-hour, 240 classes and transition classes which would qualify the department for additional grant funding. The department currently has 7 certified instructors.

Knox County Adult Education has requested a donation of any old turnout gear. Chief Staiger reported the old equipment is 10 years old or older and has no value to the village but could be useful in the educational classes at the Knox County facility. A letter disallowing any responsibility will be provided to the Village. Strait moved and Shaffer seconded to donate the used equipment to the Knox County Adult Education. Roll call; Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Levings yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes. Staiger offered the used boots to any employees.

Staiger reported water leak damage to the station ceiling and the need to replace the furnace and 4 exhaust fans. Council requested that competitive pricing be provided. Strait moved and Curtis seconded to approve the replacement of the furnace and ceiling. Roll call; Strait yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes.

Delivery of the Rescue 11 has been delayed until the first of May which is at least 60 days late. The purchase contract did not contain a penalty clause for late delivery.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS

No report.

FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT

The committee met with Chief Staiger on 1/8/08 and discussed the alarm monitoring system. Strait moved and Levings seconded to approve the replacement of the system at a cost of \$1,927.65. The project was not included in the 2008 budget and competitive pricing was discussed. Roll call; Strait yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

The committee met prior to Council and discussed the NIMS requirements. The committees will remain as established. Hart requested that committee chairmen schedule regular monthly meetings. Meetings can be cancelled or postponed when necessary.

UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS

Williams reported the Finance committee requested that \$30,000.00 be transferred from the 607 Garbage Fund in First Federal Bank to 207 Trash Reserve Fund in Star Ohio to prepare for the future purchase of a trash truck.

The committee will meet briefly following the meeting tonight.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER

The committee will meet on 2/4/08 to finalize the selection of the Dr. Nathan Tucker Award for Excellence.

CIC and the Mt. Gilead Design Review Board have scheduled meetings in February.

CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS

The committee scheduled monthly meetings for the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers reported the WWTP is running as expected. Final details are being completed. Septage receiving will begin as soon as operators are made aware of the operation. A revenue account will be created within the Sewer Fund.

Rogers explained the internal/external water tank inspection process. Divers will video tape the inspection from within the tanks and will vacuum out any residue.

Sanitary sewer problems continue to plaque the residents of Baker St. Residents in the senior housing development continually dispose of cooking grease in the drains and cause back-up problems for neighbors. The elderly residents ignore the Village's numerous warning against pouring grease down the drains. A grease-trap could help eliminate the on-going problem.

Updates included cold patching and street light outages and snow removal. A few residents who live on snow emergency streets may be ticketed if vehicles are left parked on the streets following heavy snowfalls.

Rogers reported there is no truth to the rumors that Wal-Mart has purchased the local Pamida Store building. The local Pamida, along with 17 others in the state, will be closing in about 10 weeks.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

Porter reported a good beginning to his duties as Mayor.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

Brininger reported he and Griffith attended the meeting with Gilead Township Trustees and the Rivercliff Cemetery Board.

Griffith drafted a letter to the Western Reserve Insurance Co. agreeing to the original settlement between the Village and the insurance agents following the 12/27/07 traffic accident.

Brininger recommended that an ordinance approving the rezoning of the WODA be presented to Council for adoption.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Following a brief discussion, Curtis moved and Strait seconded to approve payment of the bills. Roll call; Curtis yes, Strait yes, Hart yes, Williams yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes.

OTHER

Council discussed the downtown parking issue with business owners Kim & Jim Fleeson. The Mayor recommended that the Merchants Association write to the businesses who are abusing the two-hour parking restrictions. If that fails the Village could write a letter of warning that the parking restrictions will be enforced. Public parking lots are available but are not clearly marked.

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 8:30 PM.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator

