

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on March 1, 2010.

INVOCATION

Curtis 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, Darrell Levings, Dianne Matuch, Emily Shaffer. Steve Hart was excused. The Clerk declared a quorum. Mayor Mike Porter, Solicitor Tod Brininger, Administrator Dan Rogers and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Mermann were present.

MINUTES

Shaffer moved and Clapper seconded to approve the minutes with the correction that Codes and Regulations Committee is scheduled to meet on 4/5/10 and the motions on Ordinance 1635 were recorded incorrectly. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Levings yes, Matuch yes.

GUESTS

Guests were Don Staiger and Emily Ochsenhirt from First Energy. First Energy informational packets containing an outline of the Opt-Out Aggregation Program Proposal, an Aggregation-Projected Timeline graph, and a sample letter that will be mailed to residents if the program is adopted, were distributed. Ms. Ochsenhirt briefly explained the proposed 9-year aggregation program, the benefits for residents and the grant of \$75,000.00 that will be awarded to the Village if the voters approve and Council decides to adopt the program. Council questioned several aspects of the program, including the certification requirements, new residents' options, and the Village's obligations. Ms. Ochsenhirt explained the certification is required by PUCO regulations and reported the only obligation for the Village will be the actual certification, all filing requirements and funding of the project will be the responsibility of First Energy and Ohio Edison. Ms. Ochsenhirt offered to conduct informational meetings with residents. Mayor Porter endorsed the program as being beneficial for residents and the Village.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman was excused. A written report outlined 203 calls, 43 reports, 1 accident and 48 charges for February.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger reported 69 responses for the year. Fires destroyed two homes on TR 115; both fires were ruled accidental.

Staiger requested that the next newsletter inform residents of the importance of visible house numbers.

Matuch moved and Shaffer seconded to approve the appointment of James Chaffin as probationary firefighter. Roll call; Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes. The 2009 Year End Report information is being compiled.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS**

No report. The next meeting is scheduled for 3-10-10 at 4:30 PM.

FIRE & POLICE-DIANNE MATUCH

Matuch reported that from the 18 applicants for the Police Officer Position, 15 took the written and physical fitness tests on 2-27-10. Following background investigations of the five top applicants, interviews will begin on 3-9-10.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

Hart was excused.

UTILITIES-TIM CLAPPER

The committee met following Council on 2-15-10.

Clapper and Administrator Rogers are studying the current water rates for possible future increases.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-JOHN CURTIS

Curtis reported the committee would be preparing for the 2010 Dr. Nathan Tucker Award for Excellence applications. The award will be presented at the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon in July.

CODES & REGULATIONS-EMILY SHAFFER

Shaffer reminded Council the Public Hearing for the Wind Conversion Systems would be held prior to Council on 3-15-10 at 6:00 PM. Notices have been published in the Sentinel and posted at the Municipal Building.

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 PM on 4-5-10.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers reported normal maintenance at the WWTP and Water Plant.

Miller Cable has completed the foundations and the underground work on the Monument renovations through the Transportation Enhancement Grant (TEP). Wiring for the traffic signals will begin next week. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of March.

Deanna Nigh was hired as summer Recreation Director.

The Deer Creek Excavating has begun the excavating for the Northwood Subdivision Storm Sewer Project under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The contractor is ready to cross Lee Street and Cypress Lane. Miller Pipeline work on the ARRA Sanitary Sewer Project will be delayed until after the snow is gone.

The Mt. Gilead Planning Commission met at 7:00 PM on 2-24-10 to discuss the former HPM Corporation Plant I site located at 374 Lincoln Ave., currently owned by Mid-Ohio Sanitation. Rogers reported the site has been identified by the Ohio Department of Development as a possible Clean Ohio Brownfield Revitalization project. A letter from the Brownfield Restoration Group, LLC explained the Phases of the proposed project. Phase I "Property Assessment" process has been completed and now requires that the Village complete the engineering and documentation needed to apply to the Clean Ohio program for the grant to conduct Phase II environmental assessment activities. The State of Ohio, in its "Priority Investment Area for 2010" listing, has rated Morrow County as a "Labor Surplus County". Levings stated that the cleaned Lincoln Ave. property will be attractive to potential manufacturers because it is located within multiple transportation possibilities; there is a nearby rail-spur connecting the plant to the HPM Plant II location, it is within 50 miles of the Columbus International Airport, and within 10 miles of Interstate 71. Rogers stated that although the property is currently privately owned, only the Village could apply for such grants; the Village would have to agree to a purchase price. Currently the property is not only rundown and deteriorating but there is potential danger for the surrounding area from possible chemicals still in the soil from the previous owners. Following a lengthy discussion, Levings moved and Curtis seconded to authorize \$2,000.00 for the study and paper work by Brownfield Restoration Group LLC for Phase II of the proposed project. Roll call; Levings yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Shaffer yes, Matuch yes.

A strong odor of gasoline and/or chemical solvent has permeated several homes along the west side of S. Main St. Residents complaining of the odor coming in from the sanitary sewer lines have prompted an investigation to determine the source of the problem. Rogers reported he has not been able to pinpoint the source but has warned everyone in the area of the threat to the homes and residents in the area as well as the laws prohibiting disposing of chemicals in the Village sewers.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

Mayor Porter expressed appreciation to the employees for always keeping the streets clear following the numerous snowstorms.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

No report.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Shaffer moved and Levings seconded to approve the bills. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Matuch yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes.

Ordinance 1632 was presented for the 3rd reading. Levings moved and Clapper seconded to adopt the ODOT ordinance. Roll call; Levings yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes.

Ordinance 1633 was presented for the 3rd reading. Shaffer moved and Levings seconded to adopt the income tax amendment ordinance. Curtis objected again to the ordinance that requires the income tax be paid by April 15th to allow the one-half percent (.50%) credit paid to another municipality. Roll call; Levings yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis no.

Resolution 2-15-10 was presented for the 2nd reading. Levings moved and Matuch seconded to pass the resolution to accept the Lockwood plat to the 3rd reading. Roll call; Levings yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes.

Ordinance 1635 was presented for the 2nd reading. Shaffer moved and Levings seconded to pass the Lockwood/Chartwell Street traffic ordinance to the 3rd reading. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Matuch yes.

Resolution 3-1-10 was presented. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules for the real estate tax assessment resolution. Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt Resolution 3-1-10 as an emergency. Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Matuch yes, Clapper yes.

Resolution 3-1-10A was presented for the 1st reading. Levings moved and Curtis seconded to pass the street resurfacing resolution to the 2nd reading. Roll call; Levings yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Matuch yes, Clapper yes.

Mermann reported Auditors Julian & Grube have begun the 2008/2009 audit. Auditors are expected to be on site for 2 weeks.

OTHER

Levings expressed appreciation from the Morrow County Health Department Litter Control Board for the Council’s donation to the Trash Bash.

Rogers presented a sample Drug-Free Policy to be reviewed for future adoption.

Curtis moved and Clapper seconded to adjourn at 8:50 PM.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator