

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on April 18, 2011.

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, Darrell Levings, Dianne Matuch, Emily Shaffer. The Clerk declared a quorum. Mayor Mike Porter, Solicitor Matt Griffith, Administrator Dan Rogers and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Mermann were present.

MINUTES

Hart moved and Levings seconded to approve the minutes with the correction that Arbor Day is scheduled for 4/21/11 rather than 2/21/11. Roll call; Hart yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Matuch yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes.

GUESTS

Guests included Dr. Douglas Hunt, Marsha Taylor, Pastor Mark Schaeuferle and Pastor Chuck Graham. Pastor Graham, Minister of Trinity Methodist Church, and Pastor Schaeuferle, Minister of New Life Assembly of God, requested permission to hold the annual community Block Party in the downtown park area on Saturday, September 17, 2011, from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. The local churches host the annual event that attracts in excess of 400 people with food and music and fellowship. Levings moved and Clapper seconded to approve the event from 9:00 AM until after clean-up. Roll call; Levings yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Shaffer yes, Matuch yes.

Mrs. Taylor requested the amount of inheritance tax paid to the Village in the last few years. The Clerk offered to provide the amounts following the meeting but explained the names of the decedents are not considered public record.

Dr. Hunt stated he was just observing the meeting.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman was excused.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger was excused.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS

Levings reported the meeting scheduled for 4/20/11 is cancelled.

FIRE & POLICE-JOHN CURTIS

Curtis reviewed the written minutes of the meeting held on 4/12/11, highlighting the components of the FEMA grant in the amount of \$86,928.00. The Accountability System, Diesel Exhaust System, Radios and Repeaters were purchased with the funds from the Department of Homeland Security.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6/14/11 at 6:00 PM in the Fire Station.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

The committee met prior to the Council meeting. The revised Personnel Policy has been turned over Solicitor Griffith for final review and approval. The committee discussed an additional section to the policy to offer employees a means of voicing concerns or complaints other than the grievance procedures without fearing retaliation from supervisors. Wage increases for employees who have special licenses i.e. pest control, etc. were discussed.

The next meeting is scheduled for 5/16/11 at 6:00 PM.

UTILITIES-TIM CLAPPER

The written minutes of the previous meetings were briefly reviewed. Ordinance 1651, an ordinance to increase sanitary sewer charges 7% to begin 7/1/11; 7% to begin 4/1/12; and 7% to begin 1/1/13 will be presented for the first reading tonight. Council discussed the operational cost increases in recent years, the amount of the increase per average family, and investment options. Shaffer expressed her appreciation that the water increase proposed in 2010 was later realized as unnecessary and questioned the necessity of the current proposed sanitary sewer increases. Curtis expressed reluctance to the increases at this time of nationwide economic strife. Clapper explained the lower annual fund balances over the past three years. The committee is scheduled to meet the fourth Tuesday in each month beginning in May.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-DIANNE MATUCH

The Dr. Nathan Tucker Award applications will be published in the Sentinel. The next meeting is scheduled for 6/8/11 at 6:00 PM.

CODES & REGULATIONS-EMILY SHAFFER

Shaffer reported the proposed changes to Chapter 721 have been turned over to the Solicitor for approval. The ordinance regulating peddlers includes fees which will need to be amended. The next meeting is scheduled for 5/2/11 at 6:00 PM.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Algae was cleaned from the WWTP clarifiers and the UV system was reinstalled for the summer. Drying beds were cleaned and filled this week to reduce sludge. Average water usage was reported at the Water Plant. Repairs of curb boxes and meters continue. Rogers is working with an Iberia St. resident to replace a lead water line and to remove the illegal booster pump. The resident will replace the service line and eliminate the galvanized pipe. A 3" copper line that feeds water to the Water Plant was replaced last week because of a leak. A 3" valve was installed in the line to allow water to be shut off in the process building.

Repairs to the Vactor Jetter were completed at a cost of \$2,200.00.

Deer Creek should return by 5/1/11 to complete the SR 95 Issue I project.

Three of the 50 catch basins that must be rebuilt are already completed at a cost of \$2,000.00 each.

Recreation Board met on 6/12/11 to plan for the summer activities. The pool is expected to open Memorial Day weekend. A new safety feature at the pool is the installation of a chemical-feed system. Pool personnel will continue to test the water but Water Plant personnel will be responsible for adding the chemicals using the new system. The Board is requesting that Council amend the current ordinances and to adopt an employee policy for Recreation personnel qualifications and wages.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

The Mayor reported he will attend Tree City activities along with Dan Rogers and Tree Board member Jim Helt on 4/21/11.

The first meeting in May will be the joint meeting with Gilead Township Trustees.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

Griffith requested that Council move into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending legislation against the Village.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

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

Ordinance 1650 was presented for the second reading. Clapper moved and Levings seconded to pass the Water Revenue Notes 2011 ordinance to the third reading. Roll call; Clapper yes, Levings yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1651 was presented for the first reading. Clapper moved and Matuch seconded to pass the sanitary sewer rate increase ordinance to the second reading. Roll call; Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1652 was presented for the first reading. Hart moved and Levings seconded to pass the recreation amendment ordinance to the second reading. Roll call; Hart yes, Levings yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1653 was presented. Shaffer moved and Matuch seconded to suspend the rules. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Matuch yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Levings yes. Shaffer moved and Hart seconded to adopt the Supplemental Appropriation ordinance. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes. YTD Fund Report was distributed.

Mermann expressed appreciation to Captain Underwood for working late on Friday 4/15/11 for the Income Tax Department's extended hours. Captain Underwood, realizing the amount of money coming into the office at the time, voluntarily assured the employee's safety during the later hours while residents were offered an opportunity to file and pay their annual income tax.

OTHER

Hart reported the Rivercliff Union Cemetery Board, which includes Clapper and Hart, Mayor Porter and Attorney Tom Elkin, met with Gilead Township Trustees on 4/13/11, to determine if the revenue from the .45 tax levy could be expended for all the cemeteries within the Township and not exclusively for Rivercliff and to determine if an agreement between the two entities could be reached. The Board, made up of one Trustee and two members of Council, has worked toward an agreement between the two entities for a number of years. However, the Township Trustees have refused to sign the Agreement, disagreeing with the Village on how the tax revenue should be expended. The Township having responsibility of several cemeteries has contended that the revenue is not specifically for the Rivercliff Union Cemetery and could be used for the care and maintenance of all the cemeteries within the Township. The tax levy, used exclusively for Rivercliff, generates approximately \$50,000.00 annually, of which, Mt. Gilead Village contributes approximately 52%, Gilead Township contributes approximately 46% and Edison contributes approximately 2%. The Board has recognized that the levy is not sufficient for the expenses of Rivercliff resulting in deficit spending. Attorney Elkin has agreed to prepare an agreement to form a new Board of one member of Council, one Trustee and one member at-large, possibly from Edison. The new Board is encouraged to seek a tax levy similar to the 2.5 mill Cardington Glendale Cemetery levy. The Township and Village would be required to pay a maximum of \$7,500.00 annually for expenses of the cemeteries. The Joint Meeting of the Trustees and Council is scheduled for 5/2/11.

Hart moved and Curtis seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation against the Village. Roll call; Hart yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes. Curtis moved and Clapper seconded to return to the Regular Meeting. Roll call; Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Hart yes. Hart reported the Council discussed pending litigation against the Village while in Executive Session. Curtis moved and Clapper seconded to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator