

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Whiston called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm on January 15, 2007.

INVOCATION

Curtis offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Shaffer moved and Williams seconded to approve the minutes with the correction that Attorney Dave Stomlis is being retained by the Village rather than Brininger & Griffith as reported. Roll call: Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes, Hart yes, Strain yes.

GUESTS

Guests included Jennifer Wallis and Brian Zerman.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman presented his 2006 year-end report. Auxiliary donated a total of 1,197 hours covering sick-days, training and vacation hours. While the number of cases, accidents and reports was less than in previous years, the severity of the crimes was greatly increased, including theft, DUIs, and drug cases. Ninety drug cases and 89 accidents were reported. Chief Zerman commended Officer Gifford for 20 of the 46 OMVI charges. Of the \$133,000.00 stolen property reported, approximately \$97,000.00 was recovered, amounting to 72% recovery record. Of the 2,377 traffic stops 1,616 were issued warnings. Court cases were reported as follows: 33% were cited into County Municipal Court, 8% into Juvenile Court, 57% in Mayors Court and 2% into other courts. Council expressed appreciation for the comprehensive report. Testing began for 10 officers who are interested in the full time position. A meeting with the Fire & Police Committee will be scheduled for the first of February for the final 2 or 3 applicants.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger was excused.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-BRANDON STRAIN

The committee will meet at 5:00 pm on 1/31/07. Strain moved and Curtis seconded to purchase a truck at \$23,996.99 for the Streets Department and another at \$17,999.99 for the Water and Sewer Departments as scheduled in the 2007 budget. Both vehicles are at state bid. Council discussed the need to have a resolution drawn up for purchases. A total of 4 vehicles will be sold at the consignments sale in February. Vehicles will be reassigned within their respective departments. Roll call; Strain yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Strait yes.

FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT

No report.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

Hart reported that committee assignments will remain the same as in 2006. The committee met prior to Council and discussed proposed changes to the wages ordinance. The next meeting is scheduled for 2/19/07 at 6:00 pm.

UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS

Williams reported that the committee will meet following Council and recommend 2 ordinances, 1 increasing sewer tap fees and the other increasing water tap fees for Council approval.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 pm on 2/5/07.

CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS

Curtis reported that the committee will schedule a meeting to discuss pet ordinances from surrounding communities.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers presented up to date pictures of the Sanitary Sewer Plant construction. Roof on the Raw and the Screen building is not complete but it is on and is now watertight. Equipment installation is taking place. A hands-on visit to the Mansfield plant operation is planned for 1/18/07.

While continued rains have not slowed progress at the construction site, the weather is causing problems in other areas. Storm sewers as well as sanitary sewers are running full and have had to be cleaned or jetted. The County Health Department will help isolate and correct a grease problem in the Center St. sewer line.

Crack sealing on Douglas St. has been completed and potholes are being repaired.

Minor repairs were reported at the Water Plant.

Minor problems with CMI Software and Henschen Mayor's Court software are being addressed.

Rogers reported the gasoline tax projected for 2007 and 2008.

Rogers presented graphs and fund balances and explained the payback schedule for the Sanitary Sewer Plant project. The 2003 Water & Sewer Rate Analysis proposed that in order to meet the debt, the Sewer Fund, should be at \$557,461.00 by the end of 2006. Capital Improvement Fund would need a balance of \$626,8989.00 by the end of 2006. The Sewer Fund had an unencumbered balance of \$566,138.05 and the Capital Improvement Fund's unencumbered balance was \$627,740.60. It was recommended in 2003 that the transfers from the Sewer Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund be eliminated in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011, however it will not be necessary to suspend those transfers since both funds are within the desired range. Septage receiving will also have an impact beginning in 2007. The system meters will measure the septage and generate a bill immediately.

MAYOR- TOM WHISTON

The Mayor reported the Arbor Day Commission has recognized the Village for the Tree City Award. The Tree Board continues to monitor the Emerald Ash Borror.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Thursday for review of the proposed zoning changes. A public hearing will be scheduled and Council will adopt the zoning regulations.

Whiston reported that a copy of a letter from Sheriff Steven Brenneman to the Morrow County Commissioners was forwarded to Chief Zerman. Brenneman requested that the LEADS/Radio contracts with Cardington, Edison, and Mt. Gilead be reviewed. Whiston reported that the contract which was extended through 2006, would continue at the current cost of \$820.00 per month until the contract is renegotiated

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

Griffith reported that he will review the proposed changes to the wages ordinance.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Hart moved and Strait seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call; Hart yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes.

Resolution 1-15-07 was presented. Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes. Hart moved and Curtis seconded to adopt the cruiser purchase resolution. Roll call; Hart yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes, Strain yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes.

Ordinance 1568 was read for the first time. Williams moved and Strait seconded to pass the sale of property ordinance to the 2nd reading. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

OTHER

Council discussed the need to always have a resolution for purchases. Williams moved and Curtis seconded that a resolution be prepared authorizing the Clerk to contract for the purchase of the two trucks. Roll call; Williams yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Strain no, Strait yes, Hart yes.

Curtis moved and Strain seconded to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Thomas E. Whiston, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator