

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on January 19, 2009.

INVOCATION

Strait offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

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

GUESTS

Guests included Don Staiger and Brian Zerman.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman reported that Officer Foley, who suffered a heart attack on 1/12/09, has returned to work full time with no restrictions.

Minor repairs, still under warranty, were completed on one '08 Cruiser.

Council reviewed the 2008 Department Report which featured a breakdown on charges, reports, causes and locations of accidents, types and number of charges per officer, times and locations of reports and problems. The report broke the Village into 5 "zones" to compare problem areas. As expected, the "north of High Street/West of Main Street" showed the highest numbers of reports. The department answered 2,786 calls for service, took 507 reports and issued 880 charges. Zerman reported that departments in the surrounding communities are witnessing the same decrease in numbers as the Village and that experience warns that it could be "the calm before the storm". The economy could partially be the cause of the increase in the number of domestic disputes. Mayor Porter commended Chief Zerman for the comprehensive report and requested that the officers keep a log of time spent marking tires in the downtown business district.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

The 2008 report will be prepared for the 2/2/09 meeting. Two house fires, one with Ashley and one with First Consolidated were reported in 2009. An increase in the number of chimney fires was reported.

Chief Staiger requested that Caleb Cox, a senior at Delaware Joint Vocational School be accepted as a probationary firefighter. Shaffer moved and Strait seconded that Cox be approved as requested. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Williams yes, Hart yes.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS

Levings was on vacation and was excused.

FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT

Strait reported that the meeting scheduled for 1/14/09 was postponed until 1/20/09 at 6:00 pm to appoint the 2009 Firefighters Dependents Fund members.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

The committee met prior to Council. Two changes were noted for the committees for 2009. Emily Shaffer will serve as the Chairman for the Codes & Regulations committee and John Curtis will serve as the Chairman for the Economic & Development committee. Curtis will continue to chair the Codes & Regulations meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm on 1/21/09 as planned.

Administrator Rogers presented a proposed change to the Personnel Policy to clarify and more strictly regulate the anti-drug policy. The committee will make the final recommendations after Solicitor Griffith has had an opportunity to review the requested changes.

UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS

The committee is scheduled to meet briefly following the meeting tonight.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER

The minutes of the 1/5/09 meeting were distributed and discussed briefly. The Dr. Nathan Tucker Award nomination applications were presented and will be available in the Shoppers Compass, Village office, at Gardens & Gifts, and online.

CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS

Curtis was ill and was excused.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Severe cold weather has caused a decrease in flows at the WWTP but has not caused any further problems so far. The recent electric bills at the WWTP are lower than the previous invoices. Steve McKirgan and Bret Cox were credited with devising a system to remove debris from the new final clarifier.

The Consumer Confidence Report, due to be distributed before July, have been submitted to the EPA for review.

The office remodeling is scheduled to begin 1/22/09.

Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Phase 2 project will begin as weather allows. Continued below-zero temperatures has delayed the work.

Only 75 tons remain of the 200-ton contract for street salt. Because of the shortage, the cost of the deicing salt for the 2008/2009 winter will be between \$10,000.00 and \$12,000.00 and only a limited amount is available. Only the intersections and hills are being salted. If necessary, the Village may use a salt water/grit combination, although the grit necessitates repeated cleaning of storm sewers.

Rogers reported he expects the renovations at the proposed Discount DrugMart to begin in February.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

Mayor Porter reported that the food drive on 1/17/09 was successful despite the frigid temperatures.

The Mayor expressed concern for local Attorney Hildebrand who was diagnosed with cancer, and congratulations for Ethel Harden for her 100th birthday.

The planned customer-service training class, scheduled for 2/12/09 will be held in the Fire Station rather than the Presbyterian Church as originally planned and lunch will be served.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

No report.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Williams moved and Hart seconded to approve the bills. Roll call; Williams yes, Hart yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes

Hart moved and Strait seconded to pass Ordinance 1611, an ordinance authorizing the sale of vehicles, to the 2nd reading. Roll call; Hart yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes.

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules for Resolution 1-19-09, a resolution to authorize the 125 Cafeteria Plan. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Strait yes.

Hart moved and Strait seconded to adopt the resolution. Roll call; Hart yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes.

Shaffer moved and Williams seconded to suspend the rules for Resolution 1-19-09A, a resolution to assess real estate taxes for delinquent water bills. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Hart yes, Strait yes. Williams moved and Hart seconded to adopt the resolution. Roll call; Williams yes, Hart yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes.

Strait moved and Shaffer seconded to adjourn at 7:40 pm.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator