

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **INVOCATION**

Curtis offered the Invocation.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Whiston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

## **MINUTES**

Shaffer moved and Strait seconded to approve the minutes with one correction. Roll call: Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

## **GUESTS**

Guests included Mt. Gilead School Superintendent Robert Alexander, Mike Porter, Jim Fleeson, Mark Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Irey Walker, Don Staiger, Jennifer Wallis, and Brian Zerman. Mr. Alexander presented an informative video showing the many agencies supported by the Morrow County United Way, including the Girl and Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Senior Center, Children's Connection, Helpline and Big Brothers and Big Sister programs.

Mr. & Mrs. Walker reported the strong sewer odor coming from the storm sewer in front of their home at 204 Town St. He stated that the ongoing problem has been worse this summer and is causing residents to become ill from the odors. Rogers reported the services department is aware of the problem, the camera has been used in an attempt to identify any illegal sewer tie-ins into the storm drains and the lines in the low-lying area are flushed on a regular schedule. Rogers stated it is an extensive line that may qualify as an Issue I project. Rogers reported he suspects the problems are originating from Lincoln Ave. Williams offered to have the Utilities Committee review the problem and possibly conduct a study of the entire area. Mr. Walker expressed appreciation for the courtesy and attention of the Mayor concerning the numerous complaints.

## **POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN**

Chief Zerman reported the second robbery at the Pop-A-Top Drive Thru. The suspect was arrested, has confessed to the crimes and is currently in jail. Two other similar robberies involving guns have occurred in the County.

A serious accident on High St. at the BP station snapped a utility pole on Sunday afternoon at 3:40 pm. High St. was closed from 3:45 pm until 11:00 pm while Ohio Edison replaced the pole and repaired the lines. The driver of the vehicle was taken to the hospital with only minor injuries.

## **FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER**

Chief Staiger reported a total of 338 calls for the year. A serious farm fire on CR 9 north of Edison occurred 10/13/07, causing over \$100,000.00 in damages. A gas leak on N. Main St., an accident involving a vehicle and a lawn mower, and a "stand-by" call from Iberia were all a part of the past weekend.

Eighteen firefighters will take part in a NIMS (National Incident Management System) class being offered on 1/5/08. Any person who could potentially be in a management position during an emergency situation is required to complete the training.

Staiger presented 2 candidates, Mike Wolfe and Roy Phillips, for probationary firefighters. Wolfe is a senior at Delaware Joint Vocational School and will graduate with his EMT and 240 card. Phillips has his 36-hour card and has completed his EMT training. Strait moved and Curtis seconded to approve the appointment of both candidates. Roll call; Strait yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes.

Staiger reported he will be on vacation from 10/25/07 through 11/8/07.

## **COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **STREETS-BRANDON STRAIN**

Strain was excused

#### **FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT**

Strait reported that N. Main St. resident, Renee Rockwell, has again requested that the walnut tree in her tree lawn be removed. He stated that the tree appears to be a healthy, mature tree. Ms. Rockwell had requested to address Council but was unable to attend.

#### **FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART**

Finance & Personnel met prior to Council. Hart reported that Chuck Benner retired from the Village Services Department on 9/29/07.

State Auditors met this morning with the Clerk-Treasurer for a pre-audit meeting with potential Independent Auditors. The bids will be opened by the State Auditor on 10/29/07 and will be reviewed and graded by both the State agency and the Village. The audits will include 2006 & 2007 and 2008 & 2009.

The committee discussed implementing direct-deposit for employees at a set-up cost of \$2,584.00 and an annual fee of \$234.00.

Hart moved and Curtis seconded to rescind Resolution 12-1-03. The resolution supported a Revolving Loan Fund from the Morrow County Health Department in which the Village agreed to contribute \$1,000.00 annually through 2008. The program was begun as a means of blight control but has suffered because of budget and staffing constraints. Rather than create a surplus of funds, the Department requested no funding in 2007. Council agreed to support the program if it is re-established in the future. Roll call; Hart yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes.

#### **UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS**

Williams explained the importance of adopting Ordinance 1587. The lengthy ordinance will regulate the Septic Receiving Facility. Council discussed and agreed to correct the "enforcement" portion to read "Village Solicitor" rather than "Village Engineer". The ordinance will be amended before the second reading.

The committee will meet following Council.

#### **VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER**

The committee scheduled a meeting following Council on 11/5/07.

#### **CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS**

No report.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS**

Rogers reported he conducted a "walk-thru" of the WWTP today. The Administration Building is 95% completed. Phone systems, including the emergency auto-dial-up, are ready for Embarq connection. Several State officials have been invited to the 11/5/07 dedication of the Sanitary Sewer Plant. An Open House will be scheduled for the spring.

The Cedar St. waterline repairs/replacement estimates are approximately \$12,000.00 and will include 2 new hydrants. The work will be completed by the village employees.

Issue I application is expected to earn a high score and will be used to complete the interceptor lines.

Repairs of the Field Gymmy and the Leaf Machine have been completed.

Rogers reported he presented a lecture to the Olentangy Watershed Board focusing on the WWTP progress. No overflows were reported following recent heavy rains. The OEPA commended Mt. Gilead for the construction of the new Sanitary Sewer Plant which will eliminate overflows that ultimately contaminate the environment.

Council offered to help monitor and report street light outages. Ohio Edison has become very slow in responding to outage reports.

#### **MAYOR- TOM WHISTON**

The Tree Board is considering a software proposal.

The Mayor officiated at 2 weddings this afternoon

#### **SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER**

The Solicitors' September report was distributed. .

Griffith presented and recommended the adoption of the "Mt. Gilead Public Documents Policy" in compliance with HB 9. Shaffer moved and Curtis seconded to approve the policy. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Hart yes, Strait yes.

**CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN**

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

Ordinance 1587 was presented for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to pass the Septage Receiving Facility ordinance to the second reading. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Ordinance 1588 was presented for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Shaffer moved and Williams seconded to pass the Monument Grant ordinance to the second reading. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Ordinance 1589 was presented. Williams moved and Strait seconded to suspend the rules. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes. Hart moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the Supplemental Appropriation ordinance. Roll call, Hart yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes.

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

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 8:20 pm.

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Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

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Thomas E. Whiston, Mayor

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Dan Rogers, Administrator