

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Whiston called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on December 3, 2007.

## **INVOCATION**

Williams offered the Invocation.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Whiston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

## **MINUTES**

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

## **GUESTS**

Guests included Mayor-elect Mike Porter and Kim Porter, Councilman-elect Darrell Levings Don Staiger, and Brian Zerman.

Mayor Whiston presented a Proclamation of Appreciation to Mt. Gilead School teacher Kim Porter for her dedication to the Safety Town Program. Kim has served as the Director of the event since its inception and it is hoped she will continue in that important function.

## **POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN**

Chief Zerman reported 221 calls for service, 7 domestics, 6 felonies, 93 charges and 10 accidents during November.

Lock-down drills were conducted at the Mt. Gilead Middle and High Schools and the Cardington Schools. Nine dogs, along with their handlers, were employed to locate drugs. Mt. Gilead Schools were drug-free, but drugs were found in the Cardington schools.

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to approve the following carry-over vacation hours to 2008: Cronenwett 40 hours, Meftah 40 hours, Foley 40 hours, Underwood 17 hours. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

The Fire & Police Committee met with Chief Zerman on 11/27/07 and discussed the proposed purchase of a 2008 cruiser. Zerman requested prior approval of the Council to begin the purchase process. Strait moved and Curtis seconded to approve the purchase of the 2008 cruiser. Roll call; Strait yes, Curtis yes, Strain yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes.

## **FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER**

Chief Staiger highlighted the written breakdown of the 2007 responses, including a mutual aid response this past weekend. Cell phone calls continue to report non-emergency situations which are time consuming and costly to the department.

Seven firefighters are taking part in the State Fire Marshal's Training Grant instructor's class. Funds will be requested for each of the firefighters already in the class and for one who completed the class before coming into the department. \$3,226.00 (95% of the purchase price) received from the FEMA grant allowed the purchase of the washer-extractor.

Rosenbaur is scheduled to be in the Village this week for the final review and approval of the proposed Rescue 11.

The department is expecting to purchase a projector and bracket to be used for the 84-hour transition classes.

## **COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **STREETS-BRANDON STRAIN**

No report.

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

The committee met on 11/27/07 and recommended the preliminary process of the purchase of the 2008 cruiser. The committee discussed the future purchase and/or building a garage that would keep the cruisers in from the weather, while providing storage room needed for equipment currently stored in the basement.

Chief Zerman offered to provide any information not usually included in the annual report.

**FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART**

The committee will meet on 12/17/07 for the final review of the 2008 Budget.

**UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS**

Williams reported a brief meeting on 11/19/07 to discuss street lighting on Westview Drive and Douglas St. and Fairway Lane.

The committee discussed the request on November 19<sup>th</sup> by a resident to make property owners aware of delinquent water bills from renters.

**VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER**

The committee met prior to Council and discussed the Christmas decorations. Council expressed appreciation for the new banners and decorations in the downtown area.

The Nathan Tucker Award nominations will be accepted until after the first of January.

The next scheduled committee meeting is 1/7/08. Council discussed setting the regular Council meeting at 6:00pm. Williams moved and Strait seconded to set the regular Council meeting at 6:00 pm on 1/7/08 and to place a notice in the paper. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Strain yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes. The committee agreed to cancel their meeting.

**CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS**

No report.

**ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS**

Rogers was excused. Council briefly reviewed the written report.

**MAYOR- TOM WHISTON**

Whiston reported the Downtown Design and Review Board met 11/20/07 and discussed the need to extend the board's authority and regulations to include not just the downtown area but also the entire Village. The Board agreed to disband and to establish a committee with updated codes. Williams moved and Strain seconded to approve the recommendation. Shaffer will serve on the new committee and will review and recommend the amendment of Chapter 1327 of the Codified Ordinances.

The Mayor reported that an amendment has been added to HB154 to allow the continuance of the Mt. Gilead Mayor's Court. The new law will take effect in December 2009.

**SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER**

Griffith reported the usual collections and Small Claims Court cases.

**CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN**

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

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

Mermann, Shaffer and Williams will attend Attorney General Marc Dann's required Public Records training on 12/6/07 in Mansfield.

The Public Hearing for the WODA rezoning is scheduled for 1/21/08 at 6:30 pm. Residents' letters have been mailed and the notice has been placed in the paper.

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 7:45 pm.

**OTHER**

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Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

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Thomas E. Whiston, Mayor

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Dan Rogers, Administrator