

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Porter called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on March 2, 2009.

**INVOCATION**

Levings offered the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**MINUTES**

Two corrections were requested in the minutes; clarification that the compensation for Sgt. Cronenwett would not be taken from the Drug Enforcement Fund and the storm sewer project costs of \$3,000,000.00 would include the storm sewer system throughout the Village and is not just the W. Marion Rd area. Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to approve the minutes with the two noted corrections. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

**GUESTS**

Guests included Brian Zerman and Rachel Mendell.

**POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN**

215 calls for service, 1 felony, 94 charges and 5 accidents were reported during the month of February.

Chief Zerman reported that on Saturday 2-28-09, 19 applicants took part in the written and physical testing for the Police Officer's position. Twelve of those applicants have been eliminated; six officers will go before the Mayor, Fire & Police Committee, Chief Zerman, and Captain Underwood for the interviews. The final recommendation will be presented for Council approval.

Initial evaluation of the K-9 Unit dog showed he has retained his previous training and tested well with Sgt. Cronenwett. Final training and preparation are scheduled for April; on-the-road readiness by mid-May.

**FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER**

Chief Staiger was ill and was excused.

**COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

**STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS**

The committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 p.m. on 3-11-09.

**FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT**

Chief Zerman and Captain Underwood will request a meeting date for interviews of the Officer applicants following the final review of the recent testing.

**FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART**

Hart was excused.

**UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS**

Williams explained Ordinance 1615, being presented for approval tonight. The current Video Service Providers fee of 3% is approximately \$18,000.00 annually. New legislation allows the Village to set the percentage as high as 5% but the costs would be passed on to the residents. The next meeting is scheduled following Council on 3-16-09.

**VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-JOHN CURTIS**

The committee met prior to Council and discussed the Dr. Nathan Tucker Award. Nominations are due April 6<sup>th</sup>. Curtis asked Mayor Porter to present the awards at the Chamber luncheon.

Curtis reported there has been little progress on the proposed Discount Drug Mart in the former Pamida building on W. Marion Rd.

The downtown merchants' request for additional flowers will be discussed at a future meeting.

#### **CODES & REGULATIONS-EMILY SHAFFER**

The committee scheduled a meeting at 2:00 p.m. on 3-12-09 to discuss the Traffic Control Map.

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

Rogers reported no problems at the WWTP or the Water Plant. Repairs to the Vector-Jetter could be completed at a cost of \$12,272.00. Strait moved and Levings seconded to approve the necessary repairs. The costs will be divided between the three funds that use the equipment; streets, water and sewer. Roll call; Strait yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes. Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Phase II line in is service. Projected completion date is mid-April. Freezing & thawing, unusually high winds, and vandals have all contributed to problems with street signs being damaged, bent or moved.

With the exception of the carpet in the Council Chambers, the building renovations have been completed. Lighting will be upgraded gradually; the new lights will be less expensive to operate but more costly to purchase.

Community service people are proving helpful in operating the trash collection service. Charles Gould who was instrumental in making the trash-collection operation successful retired on 1-1-09 and has not been replaced.

#### **MAYOR- MIKE PORTER**

Mayor Porter commended Administrator Rogers for the extra hours he dedicated to the building renovations, especially working weekends painting and overseeing the project. The renovations have made the offices more safe and will allow fewer problems during vacations.

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

Solicitor Griffith requested that Council go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

#### **CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN**

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

Resolution 3-2-09 was presented. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules.

Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes. Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the transfer of funds resolution. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

Resolution 3-2-09 A was presented. Williams moved and Strait seconded to suspend the rules.

Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes. Shaffer moved and Levings seconded to adopt the second transfer of funds resolution. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes Strait yes.

Ordinance 1612, the Flood Plain ordinance was read for the third time. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the ordinance. Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1613 was presented for the third reading. Levings moved Williams seconded to table the legislation until certain issues could be resolved. A lengthy discussion followed on the legislation that would change the downtown parking regulations. Shaffer reported that the downtown merchants reviewed the parking issue with mixed feelings but agreed the parking meter proposal was not a good idea. They had agreed that with so few businesses still in the downtown area, parking is no longer a problem. Curtis clarified that the group of merchants who first requested the enforcement of the 2-hour parking are now requesting that the regulations be ignored. The Mayor expressed the desire to either enforce the 2-hour regulations uniformly or to do away with the ruling. Porter stated that he had requested that the Police make 2-3 trips per shift through the downtown area marking tires and ticketing violators but the police logs showed only 5 trips through the area in one week. Strait suggested eliminating the downtown parking restrictions. Council agreed that the Village could not afford to hire an officer to continually check for violators of the 2-hour parking nor should the Officers dedicate so much time to downtown area that other areas of the community are left without Police protection which could put the rest of the community at risk. Council agreed some people always obey laws and regulations and some always risk of being cited for breaking the rules; not every violator will always get a ticket. Rogers stated that he felt doing away with the 2-hour

downtown parking would be a bad idea and offered to draft one ordinance that would eliminate the Traffic Control Map and combine the streets and regulations and penalties into one ordinance. Roll call to table Ordinance 1613; Levings yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1614, an ordinance prohibiting parking on E. Union St. was not presented, the legislation will be included in the proposed ordinance that Rogers will draft.

**OTHER**

Several members of Council expressed appreciation to Administrator Rogers for his dedication and contribution to the Village.

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to go into Executive Session. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes.

Williams moved and Strait seconded to reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes. Curtis reported that Council discussed pending litigation during Executive Session.

Mayor Porter reported that a local business employing approximately 60 people, has announced they are seeking financial assistance of between \$200,000.00 and \$300,000.00 in operating capital. According to the Mayor, CORE Systems will not remain in business without the funds needed.

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

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Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Porter, Mayor

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Dan Rogers, Administrator

Not official until approved by Council