

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Shaffer 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, Brandon Strain, Keith Strait, and Betty Williams. The Clerk declared a quorum.

MINUTES

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

GUESTS

Guests included Pastor Dennis Braun, Don Staiger, Jennifer Wallis, and Brian Zerman and Gilead Township Trustees, Harry Arnold, Clyde Columber, and David Lewis.

Pastor Braun, representing three churches, First Presbyterian, First Baptist and New Life Assembly of God, requested permission to hold their 2nd annual Block Party on July 14th in the southeast park area downtown and to close off the adjacent alley for the afternoon. The Village would provide the fencing to block off the area and to protect the trees during the festival. Fire Chief Staiger and Police Chief Zerman both approved the festival. Strait moved and Curtis seconded to allow the Block Party and the closing of the alley from 1:00-4:00 on Saturday afternoon on July 14, 2007. Roll call; Strait yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Strain yes.

JOINT MEETING WITH GILEAD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Williams moved and Strait seconded, to recess the regular meeting. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Hart yes.

Shaffer moved and Williams seconded to call the Joint Meeting to order. Roll call: Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Arnold yes, Columber yes, Lewis yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Strain yes, Strait yes. Mayor Whiston stated the purpose of the joint meeting is to adopt the .45 mill tax levy resolution. Columber reported that the Trustees are requesting to take control of the levy funds eliminating the need for a joint resolution. Revenue from the levy maintains the Rivercliff Union Cemetery but costs for maintaining other township cemeteries is being paid from the Township General Fund. Whiston clarified that the format of the annual resolution is, as it has always been, in compliance with the original agreement between the Township and the Village to operate a union cemetery. If the Trustees feel it is not in the best interest of the Township to continue a union cemetery, then the cemetery would revert back to the Village since the property is within the Village and any such changes would have an adverse effect on Township residents. Discussion focused on the original intent of agreement, increasing costs for maintaining while experiencing a decrease in operating revenue, and the appointments to the Board. Solicitor Bringer explained that the Board appointments are to be made by the Village Council and the Township Trustees jointly. Each entity elects one member and then those two appoint a third member. Since there are six Council members and three Trustees, there have always been two members of Council and one Township Trustee. Williams moved and Hart seconded to suspend the rules for Resolution 5-7-07. Roll call; Williams yes, Hart yes, Arnold yes, Columber yes, Curtis yes, Lewis yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Strait yes. Hart moved and Williams seconded to adopt Resolution 5-7-07. Roll call; Hart yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Arnold yes, Columber yes, Lewis yes. Hart moved and Curtis seconded to reappoint Betty Williams to the Cemetery Board for the 3 three-year term beginning 1-1-08 through 12/31/10. Shaffer moved and Strait seconded to close the nominations. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Strain yes, Arnold yes, Columber yes, Lewis yes. Roll call for the nomination: Hart yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Williams yes, Strain yes, Arnold yes, Columber yes, Lewis yes. Strait moved and Williams seconded to adjourn the Joint Meeting. Roll call; Strait yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Strain yes, Arnold yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Lewis yes.

Hart moved and Williams seconded to reconvene regular Council. Roll call; Hart yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Strain yes, Curtis yes.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman reported 269 calls for service, 9 accidents, 45 reports and 6 felonies for the month of April.

The 2007 cruiser is ready for service pending the arrival of the state license plates.

Applications are being reviewed for part time officers. Part time Officer Ryan Novak is resigning to take a position with the Galion Department.

Blight issues are being addressed this week.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger presented the monthly report noting 135 responses for the year. A resolution will be presented for Council approval giving the Chief the authority to apply for any eligible and qualified grant throughout the year. Since numerous grants are available, each requiring a resolution to apply for and accept funds, Resolution 5-7-07B will allow the Chief to apply for the usual grants without individual resolutions. Staiger stated the Department of Homeland Security and State Fire Marshal offer grants for safety, training, and equipment. Grants requiring matching funds will be presented in the form of an individual resolution for Council approval prior to application and funding.

Staiger reported that approximately 17,739 railway cars carrying hazardous materials travel through Edison daily. The response time and the impact that an accidental spill would have on the surrounding areas were discussed.

Repair costs of the driveway behind the station will be quoted and reviewed.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-BRANDON STRAIN

The committee met on 4/24/07 and discussed the intersection of E. High, E. Marion St. and Bank St. A written report was presented and will be discussed pending a cost quote from engineers.

Paving bids will be opened on 5/25/07 and will determine the amount of paving planned for the summer.

FIRE & POLICE-KEITH STRAIT

Strait reported a minor complaint from a resident.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

The committee is scheduled to meet on 5/21/07 to discuss salaries for the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and Council. Whiston reported that Mt. Gilead would feel the negative effects if the state continues the proposal to discontinue Mayors' Court in traffic control as well as revenue.

UTILITIES-BETTY WILLIAMS

The committee met on 4/16/07 and discussed the Administrator's request to purchase a Pipe Locator and Leak Detection. Two quotes were presented; C & S Solutions, Inc. at \$3,163.50 and one from Underground Utilities at \$2,760.00. Williams moved and Strait seconded to permit Rogers to purchase the equipment from Underground Utilities at \$2,760.00. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Strain yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Morris Painting & Decorating Co. submitted a quote of \$15,900.00 to complete the painting of piping, iron filters and softeners at the Water Plant.

The reconditioning of the raw water pumps was discussed. The pumps were badly damaged by built up rust. Future cleaning and maintenance will prevent a repeat of the costly repairs.

The committee is continuing to review Chapters 911 and 913 of the Codified Ordinances.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-EMILY SHAFFER

The committee met prior to Council tonight and discussed purchasing new banners. The committee will finalize the award plans for recognizing outstanding residents. The final award information will be released for a fall newsletter.

Shaffer reported that the Spring Festival was held downtown on Saturday 5/5/07 despite heavy rain before noon.

CODES & REGULATIONS-JOHN CURTIS

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers reported on the progress at the Sanitary Sewer Plant construction site. All major systems have been started up for the raw water systems. Operation of the raw systems is expected by the end of the week. The RAS/WAS systems will be installed in 2 weeks. The new 8" water line has been laid and is ready to cross the road tomorrow.

Blight issues are once again a problem. Lawns will be mowed as complaints are made and the costs will be added to the property owner's real estate tax.

The pool will be cleaned and minor repairs completed before filling next weekend. Ball fields are ready for the season.

Solicitor Griffith approved the annexation papers for the Styer/Long property on E. Union St. The final papers will be forwarded to the Recorder, Auditor, Secretary of State and Board of Elections.

MAYOR- TOM WHISTON

The Mayor reported on the progress of the State's proposal to eliminate Mayor's Court. The summer Council schedule will be set on 5/21/07.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

No report.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

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

Resolution 4-2-07 was read for the 3rd time. Shaffer moved and Williams seconded to adopt the real estate resolution. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Strain yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Resolution 5-7-07A was presented. Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes, Hart yes. Williams moved and Curtis seconded to adopt the Brown Publishing tax incentive resolution as an emergency. Whiston reported that the required contribution of \$3,500.00 to the school has not been received by the school but has reportedly been sent by Brown Publishing. The Mayor offered to follow up on the promised agreement. Council expressed disappointment in the reluctance of Hirt Publishing (now Brown Publishing) to honor their obligations in the past and concern that the pattern will continue. Roll call; Williams yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Strait yes, Hart yes.

Resolution 5-7-07B was read for the 1st time. Shaffer moved and Strait seconded to pass the fire grant resolution to the 2nd reading. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Strait yes, Williams yes, Strain yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

Ordinance 1575 was presented. Williams moved and Strait seconded to suspend the rules. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes. Hart moved and Curtis seconded to adopt the annexation ordinance as an emergency. Roll call; Hart yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Strain yes, Strait yes.

Ordinance 1576 was read for the 1st time. Strait moved and Curtis seconded to pass the Park Ave. and S. Cherry St. parking ordinance to the 2nd reading. Roll call; Strait yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Strain yes, Shaffer yes Hart yes.

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

Shaffer moved and Williams moved to approve the zoning update draft and authorize Poggemeyer Design Group to complete the modifications for adoption as an ordinance. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Strain yes, Strait yes.

The Clerk urged Council members to write to our state representatives and senators concerning two very important pending issues, the first is HB 154, abolishing Mayor's Court and the second is SB 117, legislating video providers. Both issues will have a negative impact on our community.

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 9:00 pm.

OTHER

Dan Rogers, Administrator