

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Porter called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on July 6, 2009.

## **INVOCATION**

Williams 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**

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings abstained, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

## **GUESTS**

Guests included Josh Eggleston, Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program (Ohio RCAP) representative, Tim Clapper and Brian Zerman.

Mr. Eggleston presented a slide presentation and notebook handouts of the final draft of a water and sewer rate analysis for the Village. The comprehensive study focused on "rates that are fair and equitable to all rate payers and produces enough revenue to successfully operate business". The 45-minute program explained the need to periodically review the rates and increasing costs of operation. Mr. Eggleston reported that he did not see the immediate problems that many communities are experiencing but recommended Council consider one of the 3 scenarios for water rate increases and one of the 4 scenarios for sewer rate increases.

Using spreadsheets to compare expenses and revenues as well as historical, current and future financial projections, the study suggested a gradual increase in rates and/or an increase in the base. Currently the base rate is 300 cubic feet but could be lowered to 200 cubic feet.

## **POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN**

Chief Zerman reported 275 calls for service, 20 thefts, 12 felonies, 88 charges and 9 accidents for the month of June. Zerman noted a significant increase in thefts, making late-night foot patrols necessary.

Officers answered a call at 1:00 am on 6/23/09, reporting two males with guns at a local apartment complex. The Officers located the two walking along a side street; one suspect attempted to flee but was apprehended within a short time and arrested along with the first suspect who was in possession of a loaded handgun. The next day search of the area resulted in the find of a second loaded handgun. Both are being held in jail and both are refusing to cooperate. The investigation is ongoing.

No problems were reported during or following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at the Fairgrounds.

## **FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER**

Chief Staiger was excused but distributed a written monthly report noting 193 responses for the year, a breakdown of the calls, and the current projects. Forty-six lockers were salvaged from the school, saving the department approximately \$6,000.00 and allowing each firefighter an individual locker.

The department is working with the Flying Horse Ranch on alarm systems and sprinkler systems for the proposed buildings.

A major gas leak, caused by a construction company at the former Pamida Store, resulted in 4 hours of on-site work for the firefighters on 6/26/09.

## **COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS**

Levings presented a quote of \$29,950.00 for the purchase of a 2008 Ford F450 5-ton dump truck from Matthews Ford. The price of the vehicle, reduced by \$10,000.00, is under state bid and will be used for various jobs, including snow plowing and water leaks and will replace the deteriorating '94 dump truck. Levings moved and Strait seconded to pursue the purchase with

an emergency resolution on 8-3-09. Roll call; Levings yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes.

Levings distributed a flyer and reminded Council of the upcoming Sweet Corn Festival on 7/17/09 and 7/18/09. The popular event features a Hog Roast and Chicken BBQ, Corn Cook Off, entertainment, music, games, vendors and lots of good food.

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

No report.

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

Hart was excused. A Special Council Meeting/Public Hearing was scheduled for 6:00 pm 7/15/09 to review the 2010 Tax Budget.

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

Williams reported the committee met on 6/15/09 and highlighted the written report. The proposed sewer line project and the extensive problems that will be corrected using the stimulus funds were discussed.

After a lengthy search, the source of the odor in the Town St./Save-A-Lot area has been located. Storm water getting into the sanitary sewer line was blamed for the odor and numerous complaints from area residents.

The committee discussed the Issue I funds that would be used for the SR 95/Morrow County Hospital area storm drain problems.

A meeting was scheduled for 7-15-09 following the Special Council meeting to begin to review the Ohio RCAP study. The committee will study the proposed increases before presenting any recommendations to Council.

#### **VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-JOHN CURTIS**

Curtis announced the Dr. Nathan Tucker Awards for 2009 will be awarded to Thelma Wigton and the late Mike Graham at the Chamber Luncheon on 7/21/09. The Clerk offered to supply the Chamber with a complete list of guests and Council members for the event and to prepare a check for award recipients and their nominators.

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

The committee met on 6/23/09 and discussed Ordinances 1325 and 1327 and the Downtown Review Board. The discussion of options for the downtown area will continue when the committee meets at 2:00 pm on 7/14/09.

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

Rogers reported minor repairs and maintenance at the WWTP.

The storage building renovations at the Water Plant are 90% complete. Rogers encouraged Council to visit the plant to see the vast improvements to the security and appearance of the building used for storage and parking vehicles.

Two projects will go before the DEFA/OEPA; the Northwood Subdivision and the Marion St/High St. & High St./Lincoln Ave. projects. Bid process should begin by the 1<sup>st</sup> of August. The leak at the pool will be addressed after the pool closing in September. Rogers explained the difficulty of locating certain leaks throughout the village because some water never surfaces due to the soil conditions and content.

Rogers reported the start of an arcade-type business in the former Spires Realty building in the downtown area but noted the sign has not been approved.

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

The Mayor commended Officer Mark Meftah for the kindness he extended to a motorist with a disabled vehicle.

The Discount Drug Mart held job applications last week, bringing in a surprising number of applicants for the positions.

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

Griffith reported he has completed the 125 Iberia St. property purchase contract for the closing scheduled for the week of 7/13/09. Tina Linder will research the Title Exam.

**CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN**

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

Resolution 6-1-09 A was presented for the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to adopt the property purchase resolution. Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes. Mermann requested that Council quickly make a decision on the use of the property to avoid the real estate taxes that exceed \$1,000.00 annually.

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to suspend the rules for Resolution 7-6-09. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes. Williams moved and Strait seconded to adopt the HRA amendment resolution. Roll call; Williams yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes.

Ordinance 1619 was presented for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Levings moved and Strait seconded to pass the alley vacate ordinance to the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Roll call; Levings yes, Strait yes, Shaffer yes, Williams yes, Curtis yes.

Ordinance 1621 was presented for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Williams moved and Levings seconded to pass the Administrator residency requirement ordinance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Roll call; Williams yes, Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes, Strait yes.

Ordinance 1622 was presented for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Strait moved and Levings seconded to pass the Police Chief residency requirement ordinance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Roll call; Strait yes, Levings yes, Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Curtis yes.

Two Liquor License transfers were presented. Hearing no concerns from Chief Zerman, Council agreed to allow the Geyer's Market and the Discount Drug Mart permits.

Williams moved and Shaffer seconded to accept the YTD Fund Report. Roll call; Williams yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes, Strait yes, Curtis yes.

Curtis moved and Strait seconded to adjourn at 8:45 pm.

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Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Porter, Mayor

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Dan Rogers, Administrator