

SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
VILLAGE OF MANTUA, OHIO

March 17th, 2015 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Linda Clark, Mayor Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Giles Seith, Ben Prescott, Marty Hura, John Clark, Bill Zoller, Paul Janson

OTHERS PRESENT: Rich Iafelice of CT Consultants, Village Administrator Kate Rogers, Village Solicitor Michele Stuck, Clerk-Treasurer Jenny August, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Ashlee Hawkins

CITIZENS: Roger Hawkins

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Clark said that we are here to talk about what we would ask the county if we were to decide that we might consider turning the running of the water and sewer plant over to them. She said that John Clark asked last month for Council to come up with a list of things they would like to talk about. John Clark said that there are six items and that the county is looking for, negotiable and nonnegotiable. What we absolutely have to have and what can we talk about. John said for everyone to review the list and that he doesn't know if there is anything else that anyone would want to add. He said that one of the things on the list that talk about maintaining ownership of the property and guaranteed access to the glacier esker trail would be nonnegotiable for us.

Giles Seith said that once the water and sewer plant is sold it can't ever come back and he isn't sure what the county is going to do. He said that he knows that the county really needs water. Once it's gone, it's gone forever and we won't have any say so in it. He said that we have 3 wells and there may suddenly be 10 that pop up and all the wells all the way to Hiram get dried up. John Clark said that he doesn't know why there would be. Giles said why wouldn't there be, you think they are going to leave 3 wells? John Clark said in his mind, it's covered by number one on what he had passed out. If they drill or sell any water in the city limits, then we should get paid something for it, Giles said that he agrees.

Marty Hura said that they county negotiated with Shalersville and they now don't have any rights to that water and that they have to pay for any water that they use and they are not too happy about it. Marty said that was their fault because they did not negotiate properly and he knows that the county can take advantage of us if we give them the opportunity. John Clark said that if we know things that someone else did that didn't work to their advantage, we should learn from that. Giles said that we want to avoid what happened in Rootstown, he said that their rates tripled. He said that he doesn't know how much we sell water for per gallon and Village Administrator Kate Rogers said that its 2 cents per gallon. He said as long as we maintain it, it belongs to us, and we have a responsibility to not just the generation that is here now, but future generations. He said that the county sold Auroras water to the city of Cleveland. John Clark said that was a negotiation between Aurora and the City of Cleveland, he said that the county did not want to give them the water. John Clark asked if 2 cents a gallon is going to be able to operate and maintain the water plant and the distribution system going forward. Giles said that he agrees, but he has the ultimate fear of selling it to the county. John Clark said that we went so long without a rate increase and one that we recently did was not enough to maintain what we need to do.

Giles asked if the county would fix our water lines, or just do a patch like we do now. John Clark said that they would be obligated to do so. Giles said that they would fix the leak and say that its fixed or would they do more than that. John Clark said that they have more resources then we do, to get funding if its available, they have a lot better chance to do that than we do. Giles said that John is making sense. Marty said that they are asking us for our recommendations first, but since we don't know much about water we should get their recommendations first. Council said that it was in the packet that was passed

out. Giles said that we are supposed to be on a good aquifer and we don't know how good it really is until someone takes a look at it. John Clark said that we do have a strong aquifer which is why the county is interested when we approached them. Giles said that they are interested because they can make money. Mayor Clark said sure, but that's why we are trying to make sure that we get something out of the deal as well.

Rich said that the county did not approach the village, we approached them. They are reaching out to us to ask how they can help us. They are interested because they are in the business of managing water and waste water plants and they understand that we are a small community and we don't have all the resources available. Rich said that it's a public health issue, especially in the water. Rich said that the village's inability to keep it proactive and subsidized for public health is a concern and should be a concern of Council and Councils to come. He thinks that this is recognition of the importance of the aquifer to the community. Giles said that it's a tremendous asset, the entire aquifer as you go east; there are artesian wells on Goodell Road. He said that it's to the village advantage to getting into the county water system because they have mentioned the ability to freeze our rates and helping to control costs. Rich said that they would make a big change to the management and operation of the system. Rich said that as he heard it, the county said that they want to own the property to avoid complications. Michele said that there is legal limitation of the village disposing of its property. She said that we can't just unilaterally say that they county can own our stuff without putting it out for bid. Michele said that it's just a matter of the words that we use. She said that what we want to call this discussion is terms for management and operation instead of terms for sale and lease. She said that the county has to understand that we can't just sell them or lease them the water plant and everything down there without more so if we call it management and operations and we decide on what terms the village is insisting on, she thinks it will lay some of the ground work that the county has to understand. Rich said that the county was very flexible in saying perpetual lease if they are the successful bidders. Michele said that we would not have to have a bidder if it's an agreement for operations.

John said that the way we are operating now is not the way we should be operating, that we can't sustain the water plant, waste water plant, collection and distribution systems. We need more money. He said that we can't count on getting grants all the time to make repairs that were planned years ago, we need more revenue and the only way to do that is to increase rates. John Clark asked can we sustain these utilities. Giles said that he agrees with John that there is a problem but he does not want to make a bigger problem for generations in the future. He said that if we do something, it needs to make things better and it can't be on the back of our current village resident. John said don't tell him that we can't do something, but to give him some options on what we can do. Giles said that he is not a water and sewer person by any means.

Mayor Clark asked if there is a report that will tell us how much we would have to raise rates to our residents, in order to maintain the water and sewer plants the way they should be run and not continue band aid fixes. Paul Janson said that they did that years ago. Mayor Clark said that if we had a report like that next to a report from the county that has their rates, we can see if we would be saving the village money. She said we need to see how much we would have to charge our residents to run it ourselves vs having it run by the county. Giles asked if the agreement would include the agreement that we have for filling pools, he said that its days that the village would get free water for village facilities. Mayor Clark said that would be like the village hall, service garage, etc. Mayor Clark said that it would be government buildings and that the county would probably have their own contract for pool filling. Giles said that once it leaves the village, we have no say so over it other than they are going to pay us for it. Bill Zoller asked what it matters where it goes if we are going to get paid for it. Bill said that he personally don't believe that we belong in the water and sewer business because we cannot do it justice to our citizens. Said that once we pay the buildings off, it's going to cost us so much to upgrade the stuff that we will never see what we should be seeing as a plant to produce the revenues to cover itself. Bill said that if we get royalties we can give that back to the community in the form of added roads, ball fields, parks, things that they deserve to us. Bill said that he doesn't think that we have the resources to be in the water and sewer

business, especially with the state of our info structure. Whether we put the Band-Aid on or they do, eventually the Band-Aids are going to have to go away. Mayor Clark asked Rich Iafelice if we have 4 inch lines around the village and he said in the water system. She asked if there was a deadline to when the lines have to be replaced with 6 inch or 8 inch lines, or just as lines have to be repaired they have to be changed over, Rich said correct.

John Clark said that another thing is personnel. Said that we are lucky to have Dan down at the water plant, but he is part time, works full time in Ravenna. He said that we have the bare minimum of operations at the waste water treatment plant. How to do justice is to make a higher pay scale to get someone who can handle both of the plants or one of the other which would mean a rate increase. Said there is talk of the 2 guys at the water plant leaving and if that happens, we would be in trouble and that's not some place that we want to be. John said that even if we don't go through with this, we still need to be proactive and think about how we are going to provide the adequate coverage for these two facilities so we can stay in permit, its more expensive not to stay in permit then it is to have a contingency plan. Rich said and the sewer system and the water system and all the pump stations and the reservoir. He said that if he did an analysis to show numbers it would be night and day. The cost is something that the village is not going to be able to afford.

Rich said that we should be able to flush out all sewers every few years, clean and jet all of them and he can't said when it was done last. He said that there are a lot of elements of operation and maintenance for public water and sewer system that the village does not even address. John Clark said that he can't think of a time that the sanitary has ever had maintenance done, it's always been reactive. Mayor Clark said that this is not something that has happened over the past 10-15 years, it's been going on a lot longer than that and now we have reached a point that we have to make a decision on what we want to do. Giles said that the water system was built in the 1900 and there is more old lines then new lines and that is a problem.

Mayor Clark asked if we are deviating away from what we were here to talk about. John Clark said that we are talking about the pros and cons. Mayor Clark asked Ben what he thinks and he said he is listening but he is not really for it. Mayor Clark asked Paul and he said that he is not ready yet. Marty Hura said that we can't afford not to negotiate something because we can't afford to maintain the systems as they are now and to make any corrections to what we have, we would be dead in the water. He said that we don't want to lose the water that we have because it's so great, but it's probably going to be the trade off because there is so much that has to be done to the systems that we have now. John Clark said that the county used to run the waste water treatment plant and then the village decided that they can do it on their own, that was before the new regulations came out where your operator of records has to be on site a certain amount of hours a day based on the licensing of the plant.

Giles said that a lot of the points are very well taken but his basic concern is that once it's gone, it's gone forever. John Clark said that they were here once and we then decided to run it on our own. John said that as long as we maintain ownership, there is the option for the village to come back and say that we can take it back over. Giles said that the county is going to change to, we are dealing with a constantly changing government. John Clark said that the cost of operations is just going to get more expensive, Giles agreed. Marty said that the way he reads it, the county is not interested in just running, but they want to own. John Clark said that is their preference. He said that they know that the well field is public property for us. He said that the county know where we are coming from and that we need to protect the village of Mantua. Marty said that even perpetual lease, there is no way that we can take it back from them he believes, John Clark said unless we put a term on. Mayor Clark asked Michele Stuck if we can put a term on it and she said that we have to. Michele said that if it's going to be a lease, it's going to be more complicated.

Giles said that whatever we decided to do needs to be the best and it needs to be the best for a long time to come. John Clark said that is what they are responsible for, that's why we need the list. Mayor Clark said that this is something they did not think would happen in a few month, she thought it would be at least a

year or more. John Clark said his biggest fear is that we don't have a year to talk about it. John said that he is not sure how things are going in the north east quadrant and Kate said that now that things have thawed, they are starting to do pressure readings again. She said that the EPA would like to at least get through the short term but they want to see a plan for fixing things.

John Clark said that the county is saying that we can keep the reservoir but they keep saying that they would like to put a water tower which is something that they can't tell us to do but would like to. Kate Rogers said that in 2004 CT Consultants did a report on our reservoir and they said that it might have 10 more years of life and its now 11 years later. She said that it's not for the entire reservoir but for the lid itself and that's a major expense. Kate said that there is a ton of band aids and it's scary. She said that personnel wise, we are just maybe getting by, they are not going above and beyond at the sewer plant but we can't replace them for what we are paying them. She said that Mantaline did a major water recycling system and we lost \$80000 per year in 2012 and have been losing that per year ever since. Giles asked if we are going to be able to give a good rate to the big industries that use our water. John said that the county has a better chance of maintaining a good rate then we do. John said that a lot of companies are starting to go to a sealed water recycling program for production.

Marty said that there is more opportunity for loss then gain. Mayor Clark said that every time the county does something cost saving, it's going to cost us more because we don't have the revenue to support doing the maintenance. Paul Janson said that everyone here is correct in what they are saying. The bottom line is do we want to do it? Do we need to do it? He said that right now, it looks like we need to do this. Said that we need to negotiate this to the best of our ability and no matter how long it takes, it's what we have to do. He asked Rich if he is feels confident as our village engineer that we can do this with the county, he said that he does. Paul asked who does this, council, are we going to have to set up a meeting to talk about this each month? Rich said that he has gone through this before, it's a integrate process. It's going to take time because the county suggested that we developed talking points, which we did. Then we take those points to determine what we have to have and what is negotiable and present them to the county. Then the process becomes that the county may do a study on their own on what they could be acquiring. They already asked for copies of drawing and data which he sent to them. Rich said that the county is aware that we are fixing things. He suspects that they will want to do an independent study of all the facilities. Then they would probably report back to the village then the negotiations to bring it back to council would involve the Mayor and Michele.

Paul asked where do we have to go to get the county to do what they need to do? Rich said that putting points together is a step. Paul asked if we have enough points now to do this and Rich said yes. Rich said that we first met with them in November. Paul asked if everyone is in agreement to send the talking points to the county to see what they have to say. Rich said that does not mean we are committing to anything.

Mayor Clark asked if we need to change the language in number two from long term perpetual lease to a agreement for maintenance and operation and Michele said yes. Rich asked if he sent her the talking points, can she clean up the language, she said that she could. Michele said that it would be a good idea to put the statutory limitations on there that we have to work with. Paul said that's a very good point and the county needs to know that.

Mayor Clark asked if everyone is in agreement to continue with discussions, everyone said yes.

❖ Motion to adjourn at 6:54 made by made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Paul Janson -All Ayes

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm and Mayor Clark led The Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: John Clark, Marty Hura, Paul Janson, Giles Seith, Ben Prescott and Bill Zoller

Other Village Personnel: Mayor Linda Clark; Clerk-Treasurer, Jenny August; Village Solicitor, Michele Stuck; Police Chief Harry Buchert; Village Engineer, Kate Rogers; Assistant Clerk-Treasurer, Ashlee Hawkins; Rich Iafelice of CT Consultants

Citizens Present: Roger Hawkins, Carole Pollard, Dan Pompelli from the Record Courier, Renee Henry, Joy Krzeskinski, Eric Hummell, Margo Luey, Kareo Sarget, Ptl Joe Urso of MPD, Jodie Fiala, Kim Sumvalt, Lynne Stamm, Edie Benner, Stacy Turner, Jen Sobczak.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Clark said that Jennifer Filippi is listed two times so one of them needs to be removed.

- ❖ Motion to remove Jennifer Filippi made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura –**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to accept the regular council minutes from the February 17, 2015 Council Meeting as amended made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura –**All Ayes**

Mary Greer-Toxic Waste

Mary said that she is bringing us up to date information on injection well integrity, the durability and safety of well casing and the thin sleeve of cement that surrounds it. Portage County may soon have 26 injection wells, and she said that there should be concern about casing and cement integrity and aquafer contamination. She said that whether a well is hydro fracked or drilled as an injection well, any aquafer that is near it is open to contamination to whatever fluids they are using. She said that studies show that cement and casings do break down sooner and later. She is requesting that council read the information that she gave them.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Clark said that the EPA has finally approved a recycle plan. We need to send a response to the Commissioners advising them that we will stay with them until we have completed our bid process. She spoke with Dawn and Bill from Portage Solid Waste and they have asked that we let our resident's know that they will be billing them. She said this because last year it was neither on our taxes or was a statement sent to our Village of Mantua residents. The following is a statement that we should put on the website and in the local papers;

“In the near future, Portage County Solid Waste will be billing Mantua Village residents for collecting their recycling for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. As the EPA has put a final plan into place for Portage County, the Village will soon begin the bidding process for a provider for our recycling services.” Once the Village has completed the bidding process and selected a service provider, it will be published in the local paper and on the Village website.

Next she wanted to speak regarding upcoming ordinance 2015-14. The idea of the Village becoming a CLG (Certified Local Government) for historic preservation was born from the DMRC. Members Aaron Snopek, Linda Elhert and Terry Vechery spear headed the project, spending many hours researching and contacting other municipalities to find legislation that would be the best fit for Mantua.

She felt then and still does that the Village needs this if we are to continue to move forward. Council approved this legislation in February of 2013, stating that participation would be strictly voluntary for the property owners and businesses, no pressure to be put on anyone to join. She knows that she stills feel that way. The questions that Council will be addressing tonight are: Should all the commission members be Village residents? In a perfect world she would say yes. Her recommendation to Council on this is try to fill these positions with Village resident's, if that can't be achieved then look to our business and or property owners within the Village to serve, then open it to those outside the Village. Remember, even if Council decides to make a change those TERMS that have NOT expired remain on the board until their term does expire. At this time we have two (2) Village residents, two (2) property owners and one (1) non-resident. She feels that having property/business owners on the board is good because they have a vested interest in what happens in the Village.

She feels that everyone that has been on the board has worked very hard to help get our certification, and she doesn't want anyone to feel that their service on the board is not appreciated. However, in her opinion she feels that reducing the number of members on the Commission to five will allow it to operate effectively and more efficiently while still fulfilling the purposes for which it was established.

Financial Reports

Jenny August said that our 2013-2014 audit is still moving along and she has not heard much from Fabrice lately, so hopefully they are wrapping it up. Her annual Local Government training is April 1st and 2nd in Columbus and she will also be off on Good Friday. Jenny said that we have not determined our office hours just yet, but Ashlee is trying to schedule childcare so she can work on the days that she is off.

Ashlee has been busy working on our telephone plans with AT&T. Several of them have expired and she was able to negotiate new contracts without changing ANY services. We should see savings overall of \$535 per month, which adds up to about \$6,400 a year.

GOOD JOB ASHLEE!!!

Jenny said that everyone should have the February financial reports, and to call her if there are any questions.

- To summarize, all funds are remaining steadily in the black.
- We received \$143,735 in revenues.
- We spent \$105,445 in operating and payroll expenses.
- The water & sewer and the tax software programs balanced with the UAN and bank.
- There were no adjustments needed on the bank statement.

If Council approves the recodification ordinance this evening, she would ask that you drop off your codified ordinance books as soon as possible so Ashlee can start updating them.

Lastly, we have received another \$625 in donations for the Cemetery in memory of Jane Gonczy that Council needs to accept.

- ❖ Motion to approve financial report made by Ben Prescott, Marty Hura-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to accept donations to cemetery fund in memory of Jane Gonczy made by Ben Prescott, Marty Hura-**All Ayes**

Correspondence

- We received the quarterly report from the Portage County Health Department. It is on file downstairs if anyone wants to take a look at it.
- There is a letter in the council packets from Aaron Snopek, as well as several that arrived today that Jenny has given to council expressing their opinions of membership requirements and other thoughts related to the Historic Landmark Commission.
- There is also a letter in the council packet from the Portage County Commissioners regarding the recycling program.
- Mayor Clark said that the only thing that she has is from a village resident that is requesting that when we send out our income tax forms, that we only put the last 4 digits of the social security number because we are putting the entire number on there now and with all of the fraud that is going on, asking that we address it. Jenny said that she and Ashlee are trying to figure something out that won't take months of work to do.

Bills of Resolution, Addendum Bills of Resolution

- ❖ Motion to approve the Bills of Resolution and Addendum Bills of Resolution made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Paul Janson-**All Ayes**

Legislation

ORD. 2015-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA BY CHANGING AN AREA OF PROPERTY FROM THE C-1 COMMERCIAL ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO THE R-R RURAL RESIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION.

Tabled on 2nd Reading.

- ❖ Motion to take off table made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by John Clark-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to postpone indefinitely made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by John Clark-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-05 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CHAPLAIN PROGRAM WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF MANTUA VILLAGE. *1st Reading.*

ORD. 2015-06 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PAY SCALES AND POSITIONS OF FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, REPEALING PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura –**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

Mayor Clark asked what the \$20,000 in the general is for and Jenny said that \$10,000 of it is going to be for repairs to the village hall, and the rest is for raises for the police department if they are approved. Mayor Clark said that the first word as in the legislation where it says it's all for repairs to the village government building, does it need to be rewritten? Michele said that we should clarify that it's for raises too.

- ❖ Motion to approve the amendment made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**

RES. 2015-08 A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE INTENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, OHIO TO DISPOSE OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE VILLAGE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY ACQUIRED, BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

RES. 2015-09 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA TO CONDUCT AN INTERNET AUCTION LASTING TEN DAYS FOR THE SALE OF A 2006 CHEVROLET IMPALA POLICE CRUISER, VIN # 2G1WS551669420923 WITH A STARTING BID OF \$100.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-10 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING JOSEPH URSO AS INTERIM POLICE CHIEF BEGINNING APRIL 5, 2015, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

- ❖ Motion to change the date from April 6th to April 5th where necessary made by Paul Janson, 2nd by Giles Seith-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by –**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-11 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RECODIFICATION, EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF MANTUA, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

Giles said that some of these have not been discussed in safety yet and Chief Buchert said that these are state laws and we don't have a choice.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

RES. 2015-12 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PORTAGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RELATING TO FUNDING FOR THE PORTAGE COUNTY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM AND THE PORTAGE COUNTY URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *1st Reading.*

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Marty Hura, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-13 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING A PERMANENT BUDGET FOR 2016 FOR THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, AFTER PUBLICATION AND PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 5705.30. *1st Reading.*

Jenny said that John Clark wanted to set a budget workshop an hour before next month's council meeting and asked if everyone would be ok with that, everyone said yes.

ORD. 2015-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 159.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE MANTUA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

Giles said that from reading all of the e mails it sounds like we are trying to isolate the village. It's hard to separate us from Shalersville and Mantua Township, especially when we are working with history. He said that we are all intertwined and it's going to be very difficult to separate us out. He said that we are as one, and he considers the township as Mantua. He also said that we don't hesitate to take a donation from a Shalersville or township resident.

Paul Janson said that he does not know how this got started but it should remain village and township residents. Mayor Clark asked if he listened to her recommendation and he said yes and he thinks that we need to talk about this more on how we want do to this. Mayor Clark asked if he would make this a 1st reading and he said yes. Mayor Clark said that if this is left at first reading, which is council's option, it's delaying the training that the state is waiting to give the commission so we can move forward. Paul asked that if we hold up training for one more month, is it really a big deal. Paul said that is his recommendation. Paul said that he would like to see it so there are also a minimum of a certain amount of village and a certain amount of township residents, Ben Prescott said that he agrees with Paul. Mayor Clark asked what he thinks about the number of members and she suggested 5 because if there is a tie, there is someone to break the tie. Mayor Clark said that if we were a bigger municipality then she would say 7 members would be a good thing.

John Clark asked how the number 7 originally came up. Mayor Clark said that we originally did the legislation in 2012 where it said 5 members then it came back to council and it was changed to 7, she asked if that was correct and Michele said that she doesn't remember. Mayor Clark said that the rules and regulations we have for CLG, it was recommended 5-7 members meeting the criteria of the fields and backgrounds that were needed. John Clark asked if there has been a problem with 7 members in the past. Mayor Clark said that she has looked back into the past meetings and there is usually always someone absent. Paul Janson said that it may be beneficial then to keep it at 7 members and Ben agreed, said to keep it like it is, it's hard enough to get people to volunteer.

Mayor Clark asked Bill Zoller and he said that he is undecided on 5 or 7 people. Bill asked if the township has their own committee and Carole Pollard said not a historic landmarks committee, this is it. Carole said that in order to get the CLG, which can provide tax breaks, you need the Landmarks Commission, and you need a way to designate the buildings and to oversee them. She does not see how you would get a CLG in a township. Bill said that his concern is that if its primarily the village, there should be a certain number of required village residents to be on the committee and then a certain number of other people, that it should be a mixture of everyone involved in it. Mayor Clark said that is why she thinks it should be village residents and property/business owners.

Marty Hura said that he agrees that it should be residents and nonresidents that are business owners. Ben said that one of the problems is that not everyone would be qualified to be on the board. Mayor Clark said that we would not know that until we got resumes or letter of interest. She said that if we had interested village residents, she is sure that we would have people who would be qualified. Giles said that qualified and interested are two different things.

Eric Hummel 11304 St Rt. 44, Mantua: He said that he does not know how this came to Council. He said that they were given this charge and they sent in their qualifications and they have 7 people who were working nicely together and he feels that they are on the verge of doing a lot of work for Mantua. He thought they had an understanding that their group was going to stay intact. He said that they are in the process of doing a lot of good for Mantua and for the heritage and he thinks the preservation of the current group of people and the reinstallation of the two officers is very important to the greater community village. He would like to see this happen and then work out the details of possibly different sizes, or different qualifications, or different locations of members might have for the year to come. He said that during that year, if they decide to add more members or change, then to have an orientation period. He said that in the meantime, he would recommend and hope that council would keep their 7 members intact for the next year so they can do everything that they want to do.

Renee Henry 11199 Mantua Center Rd, Mantua: She said that she has been on the Landmarks Commission and her term expired in December, she was not aware that it was going to expire but it did. She said that she has sent correspondence to council a few weeks ago asking to renew her membership. She has looked at ordinances and meetings from the past because she also wanted to know why there was 7 instead of 5 members. She said that in February 2013 the Mayor said it was because the original ordinance was passed with 5 members but she, Marty and Giles felt that because of the wide variety of knowledge, they would like it to be 7 members. She went on to say that Marty stated that they state originally set up the commission for 7 members. She said that on the same minutes, the Mayor swore in Helen Hazlett and Hal Stamm for one year, Carole Pollard, Eric Hummell and Renee Henry for 2 years, and Nick Ehlert and Aaron Snopek for 3 years and it was not corrected on the following minutes. She said that if the commission stays at 7, there are provisions that if someone does drop out, the commission has 60 days to replace that person, from when, she does not know. She said that when Aaron Snopek came to the Mantua Historical Society in 2012, he did give them very persuasive arguments for this. She said that the township enjoys a lot from the village and they are very concerned about what happens here. She doesn't feel that Aaron, Mayor Clark or anyone else on the Planning Committee has it out for the township, she said that they really believe that they are doing this for the good of Mantua Village. She said that she feels that this would not be as upsetting if it was done in a different manor. She said that if you go back and look at minutes, it was hard to get people interested in being on the committee. She said that Aaron Snopek has played the biggest role in getting things done and everyone on the committee appreciates it.

Mayor Clark said to answer the question about the 60 days, because the legislation is pending on the composition of the commission that would be extenuating circumstances.

Carole Pollard 5359 Allen Rd Mantua Twp.: She said that the fears about the difference between village and township, which is basically a line on a map in many ways, has been highly played on. She said that there are two issues, one is speed, or lack thereof, and the other one is outsiders vs. village. She said that you define outsiders as geographic and the other is rootedness in the community, 6 of the committee members have property in the area, including in the village. Some of the property is of historic status, 2 have family ties going back before 1880. Of the 6, the newest, arriving in 2001 sought out a historic home. Some arguments on speed are they are moving too fast or that they should slow down. She said the speed in which people are brought into the preservation aspect, and get their properties registered should be as slow and as careful as the resident and property owner want it to be, it doesn't matter how long it takes. She said that they got things done a year earlier than expected and it could have been 6 months sooner. She said that she went to Columbus to see if there was more to it, wanted to know why they were being told it should take longer and they had everything and then sent it. That part is now done and they can now start training. She said that they don't know what's before them, and she asked Nathan Bevel but did not get an answer. She said that the more people that are in training, the less of a chance there is for rumors to start. She said that the village has no provisions to let people know that their term is going to expire and when you are busy trying to do what you are charged to do, you lose track of the paper work. Said that is what happened to her and Renee. She said that in the February council meeting, Mayor Clark said that we have plenty of time to get everything worked out and all that all committees and commissions would stay the same. She finished with saying that between the times that she checked the website in the afternoon, their names were removed, which is a mystery.

Helen Hazlett lives in the village: Helen said that she lives in a historic home and she owns two more historic homes on Abbot Rd. She stated that she has been a realtor for 39 years and has always worked out of the Chagrin Falls office. She knows the importance of the up keeping of a home in order to sell them. She was approached to be on the Landmarks Committee, and she didn't know what it was and it took a lot of persuasion because she is busy. She said that she believes that the Landmarks Committee is to help people in the village to understand about their historic homes and possibly find a way to preserve them. Helen said that she became very disillusioned as time went on because they were brand new and the people on the committee have great resumes and as a property owner of historical homes, that is the most important thing to her, she can care less where they live, but she wants them to know about historic homes and their value. She said that since she has a historic home, no one is going to tell her what to do with it unless they are qualified and have the knowledge needed. She stated that she thought the committee was to help people understand about their historic home, she thinks that the reason this has happened is because the Village needs money, grants and the CLG in order to be eligible for more grants. The Village needs the Landmarks Committee to get the CLG. She said that they are now, after a learning period of a year and a half, at the point that they are really moving forward. She said that they were thinking about a community meeting which they would bring in

a speaker who talks about historic homes and tell us the different types we have in the Village, it would be open to the community and some plans to go forward. She said that their 2 key people who have been pulling them together are no longer on the board. She said that she resents it.

Eddie Benner 4900 Coldbrook Dr. Mantua Twp: Eddie said that she is a property owner in the Village and the president of the Downtown Revitalization. She said that she sent a letter that everyone should have that highlighted 5 points. She said that it's crucial to keep the original 7 members because they are just starting out and they should get the training, they don't even know what they are moving forward into. Changing the committee to 5 members would not be a strong recommendation. She views the committee as a commission so she thinks there should be some different ways the commission should be viewed instead of a committee of council. They are really relying on the expertise of the members of the commission. Said that she supports having village and township people on the commission. She strongly urges that council should keep the commission as it is and reappoint the 2 members that have had their terms expire. She thanked the 7 members who have been working do diligently and patiently over the past 2 years to help achieve the CLG.

Aaron Snopek: He said that he sent 2 letters, one dated March 1 and one dated this afternoon and he wanted to confirm that council saw the one sent this afternoon, they all said that they have. He said that he agrees and disagrees with some of the things that have been said. Said that he is glad there is a consensus to some degree about more historic preservation in Mantua. He said that it's really about good people on both sides that have conflicting values at issue; which is why council has to make a judgement. He said that he does rest on every word that he wrote and he does not and will not take back anything he wrote.

Joy Krishinski 11063 St Rt 44: Said that she has only lived in the village for about a year and a half and they love it. She said that she used to live in the township area outside Columbus and things like this began to drive a wedge between township and village and she hopes that doesn't happen here. Joy said that this is an incredible community and the reason is because it's a whole community and there should not be anything done to separate them.

Lynne Stamm 188 Trails End, Aurora: She asked if they can hear or see the letters that Aaron wrote and she was told that they are on the table. She said that people have mentioned residency, property ownership and business ownership and one thing that is being ignored is that we are a combined school district and that's very important to this community.

John Clark said that he thinks one of the big problems that they are facing is that Council does not know what the commission has done. Said that other commissions that are part of Council, report back to Council either by written or verbal and that's not being done right now. Carole Pollard said that they don't know in some way what a CLG is. Council has the ordinance and that the Landmark Commission is defined by the skills of the people. She said that there are minutes and if they did not get to council, she didn't know that happened. She said that as she sees it, there is an organizational flaw in the way the commission is set up. There is no council representation with what they have. She said that in Aurora, there is a link to their council somehow and she thinks that is important because they have no voice. She said that she thought that their previous secretary was attending council meetings. Carole said that she hopes the training gives everyone more structure. She said that the commission was looking forward to the training because they were hoping that it would define things for them.

Giles asked how many members are here tonight and it was 5 out of 7. Giles said that we should reinstate the commission at 7 people and their terms should be extended for another 2 years and they should continue to function. Mayor Clark said that they are still functioning but are shy 2 people until Council makes a decision. John Clark asked if there has been meeting when all 7 people were there and Carole said that there have been a few. She said that the way peoples work commitments go, there is usually at least always one person out of town on business. A quorum is more fragile if there are only 5 members when there are people traveling, which is an issue.

Bill Zoller asked if the training costs anything and he was told no. He said to let the 7 current members go to training and then table the rest of this so it can all be worked out. Paul Janson said that if we do that, we have to extend the 2 peoples terms, or extend the entire commission another year and then all terms will be staggered. Once training was done, they might know more.

Mayor Clark said that Nathan Beville said that he would like as many council members as possible to be at the training as well and she asked Council who would be interested in going so

she would have a number, and for them to give her dates so they can schedule, but no one responded. Paul and John said that they need to know when it's going to be to be able to say if they can go. Mayor Clark said that she will get a hold of Nathan tomorrow to find out when he is available. She said that she is going to guesstimate its probably going to be a 3-4 hour training. She asked Carole if that sounded correct and she said that she was told it was going to be about an hour. Mayor Clark said that it was discussed that we may open the training up to the public at the school. She said that she thinks that training the 5 or 7 commission members and 3-4 Council members is going to lose something if there are a lot of people there. She said maybe one rep from DMRC and she said that she told them that it would be Council's decision on who was invited. She said that she doesn't know if it would be considered a public meeting and Michele said that if you have more than a quorum of council then it is a public meeting. Michele said that we just have to make sure that it's published. John Clark said that its going to be hard to come up with a day and time that 14 people can agree to. Mayor Clark stated that she and Nathan had talked about possibly doing it at the end of April and she will get a hold of him tomorrow and then send an e mail to everyone. Mayor Clark asked who from Council is interested in going and Giles said that it's not a matter of being interested, it's a timing thing. Mayor Clark said that Kate Rogers, John Clark, Paul Janson, Marty Hura and Giles Seith. Mayor Clark said that Jenny will publish whatever day it's going to be.

Eric Hummel stated that this is all about preserving our village, our community, and that this information needs to get out to more people then less people. The more people who can go to that training, he feels would be better. Get the knowledge out, get people lined up to possibly getting their house or building on the register. He said that it seems like the more knowledge is out there, the better this will be. Marty Hura said that he thinks there is a point in time when more knowledge is important but right now the core people are the ones who need this knowledge and it may be easier for Nathan to pass on that knowledge to a smaller group of people.

Wes Hawkins 10733 Maple St.: He said that he believes any position available in the village should be offered to a village resident first then can go outside the village. He thinks it would be short sited to renew the 2 people whose terms have expired, that it should go to people in the Village first then if there is no one interested, we can look for people outside of the Village. He said that he thinks it would not be a problem to open the training because he thinks there would not be very many people that would come.

Bill Zoller said that he agrees with Marty, let the core people get training and then they can bring it back to the community. Wes said that it is a 5 member board right now because 2 seats are vacant, Mayor Clark said that is correct. He said that he thinks giving them a 2 year grace period just based on this training is just foolish.

Paul Janson said that he totally disagrees, he said that this was originally set up by most of these people, they wanted to be there. He said that we have to have people that want to be there. Paul said that if we are going to do this, to do it the way they originally started it and do the 7 and extend everyone for a year, get the training, keep track of what is going on and then go from there. Ben Prescott, Giles Seith and Bill Zoller said that they agree with Paul. Mayor Clark and Michele said that if we renew the 2 that have expired it would be for 3 years and we would still have 3 peoples terms expires at the end of 2015 that would need to be renewed for 3 more years at that time.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Bill Zoller, 2nd by Ben Prescott-Marty Hura voted **no, rest are ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Bill Zoller-**All No's**

Mayor Clark said that we have 2 open seats and her recommendation is that Renee Henry and Carole Pollard be reappointed for another term of 3 years

- ❖ Motion made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Bill Zoller-**All Ayes**

ORD. 2015-15 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 135.01 OF MANTUA'S CODE OF ORDINANCES CONCERNING THE POSITION OF VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER. 1st Reading.

John Clark said that he thinks it needs to be rewritten. He said to get rid of all the formulations and then just put what the rate should be. It's really confusing to look at the way that it currently is. Mayor Clark said that she thought that when discussed at finance, it's just going to have the final number. Mayor Clark said that it can be amended right now.

- ❖ Motion to amend section B number one omitting year 1, 2, 3 and 4 and adding the 4 together. Just having the annual salary will be \$38,573.81 per year for the first 4 year term of a Clerk. Remove the first 5 bullet points from number two and the annual salary should be calculated as follows needs to be removed made by John Clark, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

Mayor Clark said that this goes against the recommendation of Michele, she said that when the Mayors salary was discussed, it was discussed doing it in increments of increases every year and she recommended against it because of possible lawsuits. She said that by doing this, we are going against the recommendation of our Solicitor. Giles said that he understands, but Michele also said that it was legal. Michele said that she did not say it was legal, Giles said that she said that she didn't recommend it. Michele said that he is misunderstanding what she said, she did not say it was legal, but she did say that it was not strictly illegal because there is no provisions either way. Giles said that it's not illegal and Michele said that is correct. Michele said that she was advised by someone who knows the law in this area probably better than anyone in the state that it probably was open to legal challenge. She said that the Council has the right to not take her advice but that's where the recommendation came from.

ORD. 2015-16 AN ORDINANCE NAMING MICHELE STUCK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, AS SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA AND FIXING HER COMPENSATION FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2015 TO APRIL 30, 2017, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-**All Ayes**

2015-17 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE VILLAGE MINI-PARK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading.

Mayor Clark said that she has talked about this before. She said that this is for putting new handrails, pressure washing and resealing the concrete, getting all the wiring fixed and getting new lighting fixtures to put on top of the poles that are there. She also asked Brian Rogers today to get a cost for removing the circle where the fountain was to make it smooth. The estimate for the work is between \$30,000 to \$35,000 and CT Consultants is doing the grant paperwork under retainer. Bill Zoller asked what this would cost us and Mayor Clark said nothing, it's all free money. Mayor Clark said this is if we get it, there is a limited amount of money that has to be divided up throughout the county and the City of Ravenna is guaranteed one of the spots on the grant every time. Mayor Clark said that Ravenna used to have their own but the state has made cut backs and they got lumped into ours so they always get that spot.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules made by Paul Janson, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Paul Janson, 2nd by Ben Prescott-**All Ayes**

Department Heads and Village Engineer

Chief of Police Harry Buchert

Asking Council's permission to purchase a 2007 Chevy Impala police package. It has 47,000 miles on it from Emergency Marketing. He said that he was first authorized to do it at \$5,000 and they were able to get it for \$6,000. He said that he does have the recommendation from the Safety Committee.

- ❖ Motion to grant permission made by John Clark, 2nd by Ben Prescott -**All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to allow Jenny to cut the check made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Bill Zoller -**All Ayes**

Chief stated that we got a donation of \$500 to the K-9 fund and requests Council to accept it.

- ❖ Motion to accept donations made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Bill Zoller-**All Ayes**

Chief said that April 6th is his expected surgery and he is going to be out for at least 6-8 weeks and during that time Joe Urso will be the interim Chief. The next safety meeting is going to be April 1st at 6pm. Chief said thank you for the raises.

Village Administrator - Kate Rogers

Kate said that we are dealing with flooding and cold patching due to the spring thaw and that the west entrance of Canada Rd is closed. Brian was scraping and now is painting the pipes down at the water plant. She said that he has finished priming and that we need to

get the final coat on before the pipes start to bleed in a few weeks before the weather changes and that Brian should be able to get it done in time. They have been working on phase 1 of the storm water mitigation on W. Prospect St. She said that it is for the water coming down the hill starting at Elm and from Franklin. She said that phase 1 consists of 2 catch basins and 60 feet of pipe, and that it is all now going where it's supposed to. Phase 2 would be to go to the top of the hill where a catch basin and some pipe had been put in and do some adjustments.

Village Engineer from C.T. Consultants

Rich said that he just started doing research on the Matts Rd Bridge for possible funding since its now on the ODOTS registry. He reached out to AMATS and ODOT to see what we can do especially since the design plans for the bridge were done a number of years ago; it won't take much to update them if we can get funds. They are doing the grant app for the mini park. They are still working on sub-division regulations. He said that due to the growth they were able to take on a Grant Specialists. For any future new funding applications, she will do the grant writing and application work. Chief asked if it could be law enforcement and Rich said that she was involved in everything. Rich said that they also have an expert in downtown funding. He said that given our CLG, she is registered with Main Street in Ohio and is helping communities find funds for downtown development plans.

Mayor Clark said that she has from CT Consultants a work authorization, scope of the work includes a review of the village streets, recommendations for improvements, considering alternatives on selected streets made by the village, bidding and construction. She said that it says hourly fee is \$6,000, Rich said that it should say hourly fee not to exceed \$6,000. Rich said that they accidentally put in their rate. Kate Rogers asked if this is for this year's \$75,000 and Rich said yes, Mayor Clark asked for just this year and Rich stated yes. Giles asked if this would be coming out of the road levy and he was told yes. Giles said that we have a village administrator and a road superintendent that should be able to do it. Mayor Clark said that it seems to her that Council is the one who asked CT to do this, this is not something new. Rich said that he recommended to Council that the village goes out to the public for a levy, spent about a year on it, to reconstruct the roads. They came up with \$150,000 per year and it passed. He said that he told council and the Mayor that this is an important first year and that he would advise them to engage him and his staff to do the job in a manner that shows the public the money is being well spent. Kate said that she thinks that in this first year there are a lot of places that we don't have an option, we have emergency roads and emergency pieces of roads, those are the ones that we have to do. She said what they will hopefully be working with CT on is looking at depth of base repair. She said that some of it can be done by talking to the professionals that do the paving themselves. She said that she doesn't have any expertise in and doesn't claim to have, is the bidding process, the contract documents. She said that she would like to learn if they need to do formal bids for the smaller pieces of road. Rich said that you can do piece meal but collectively the economy tells him that one contract, you spread the money more. He said that if the village does not elect to do that, then not to use him, he is just telling us that this is the best way to do projects like this.

- ❖ Motion to approve work order made by Paul Janson, 2nd by Ben Prescott-All Ayes except Giles Seith voted no

Mayor Clark asked Rich where we were at with the LGIF grant. He said that the round 12 is still being reviewed so he has not received the cure letter yet.

Committees

John Clark for Service

John said that the Village Administrator brought to their attention the condition of the salt shed. He said that he thinks when it was remodeled, it was not meant to be permanent. Kate has been asked to get quotes for hoop and cover buildings. He said that they already spoke about what would happen if the guys in the waste water plant leave. Mayor Clark said that she did talk to Jeff Baronsic and told him what the potential could be and he said that short term, they could probably help us for a month or two if something happened but he has someone who is going off on medical leave. He suggested that we check with an engineering service to take over the running of the plant. They also spoke about getting a water/sewer assistant and establishing a title and seeing if we can streamline that process.

Marty Hura for Parks and Shade Tree

He said that for Shade Tree the Arbor Day program is underway. He got a call from Dick Kris but has to call him back. The parks are underwater right now.

Mayor Clark for Planning, Cemetery, and Board of Zoning Appeals

Nothing for BZA. Planning-They are waiting on Rich for the sub division regulations that he was reviewing for us. Cemetery- Did not attend their meeting. Her understanding is that they were going to ask Council's permission to contact someone with the justice department about changing the Trustee to Bob Berger. Michele said that he is the Judge so he can't be the Trustee. Mayor Clark said that they wanted to ask Bob Berger to appoint someone else but they need an official letter.

Ben Prescott for Finance and Portage County Regional Planning

Jenny covered Finance, nothing for PCRFP.

Bill Zoller for Fire Board

He said that they did sell the Tahoe on govdeals and got rid of miscellaneous equipment totaling \$10k-\$11K

Giles Seith for Safety

Nothing

New or Other Business

Mayor Clark said that she has a letter from the Commissioners that we need to sign and send back and then she read the response letter. It said that the Village of Mantua plans to utilize the recycling service of Portage County Solid Waste Management until at least June 30, 2015. We will be exercising our option to bid the service out, once the decision is made as to who the provider will be, the village will notify them in writing. She said that she needs Council President to sign it as well as her so she can get it in the mail.

Mayor Clark said that Michele needs to get a bid package ready to send out for the recycling. Michele asked if we are going to work with any of the surrounding communities. Mayor Clark said that she talked to Hiram and Hiram Township and they were told by the prosecutor that they do have to bid it out but we did not have too. She said that she is going to assume that they are to want to bid with us. She said that Mantua Twp. is not interested and she believes that Shalersville already signed on to keep the county. Michele said that before she can get anything to approve, she needs to get with the Prosecutor.

- ❖ Motion for Michele to move forward made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Marty Hura-All Ayes

Mayor Clark said that we had a Chili Bowl, a 5K run on March 13th that she and Paul Authorized on the 11th and we have Crestwood youth baseball that wants to be able to use our fields. She said that she does not have any insurance, or schedule yet so she is not going to ask Council to approve it. It will wait until next month.

Anything else that can properly come before Council

Nothing

Adjournment

- ❖ Motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm made by Ben Prescott, 2nd by Paul Janson-All Ayes

Mayor Linda Clark

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Ashlee Hawkins