

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2019

7:00 PM

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence:

Roll Call: Paula Tubalkain, Marty Hura, Bob Gaglione, Dave Sluka, and Scott Weaver

❖ Motion to excuse Ben Prescott by Dave Sluka, 2nd by Marty Hura– **All Ayes**

Other Village Personnel: Mayor Linda Clark; Clerk- Treasurer, Jenny August; Village Solicitor, Michele Stuck; Village Administrator, John Trew; Police Chief Joe Urso; Village Engineer, Rich Iafelice;

Citizens Present: Sue Steinberg, Bob MacClearie, Ellie Stamm. Bob Ress, Cookie Vanek, Rhonda Pikus and Tom Aldrich.

Approval of Minutes:

❖ Motion to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2019 Public Hearing for the 2020 budget and the minutes from the May 21, 2019 Regular Council meeting by Paula Tubalkain, 2nd by Scott Weaver – **All Ayes.**

Mayor's Report:

She and Marty attended the PARTA breakfast. They had some interesting ideas on the increase in gas tax, which we will get into later. She took a trip to Columbus with John and she will let him get into that during his report.

Citizens:

Bob MacClearie wanted to thank Council for everything they do for the Soap Box Derby. They had an excellent day and everything went great and there was no rain.

Sue Steinberg representing the DMRC wanted Council to know that tomorrow from 4:00 to 8:00 will be a celebration for the Burning River at Compass Packaging Chilling Station with a presentation at 6:30. On Friday will be the dedication ceremony to the Poetry Kiosk. The post for the kiosk will be installed later this month.

Financial Reports:

Jenny said the biggest thing she has going on right now is getting prepared for the first software upload to Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA), which should happen in August. Jenny reviewed the financial summary for the month of May and invited questions.

- Fund Status- Looking good.
- Cash Summary- No Adjustments
- Revenues- Revenues totaled \$205,006 We had an OPWC pass through payment that was just under \$40,000 that is reflected in revenues as well as a payment to Eclipse.
- Expenses- Combined operating and payroll expenses totaled \$195,768

- Credit Card Monthly Report- Only 2 charges this month.
- Revenue Status- We should average around 42%, and we are pretty close to that in most funds.
- Appropriation Status- Looking good.
- Bank Reconciliation- No adjustments
- The water-sewer and tax programs balanced with the UAN and the bank deposits.
- Checks 45178 through 45256 were written in May

Correspondence: none

Bills of Resolution, Addendum Bills of Resolution

- ❖ Motion to approve the Financial Reports and the Bills of Resolution and Addendum Bills of Resolution by Paula Tubalkain, 2nd by Scott Weaver-**All Ayes**

Legislation

ORD. 2019-24 AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING ORDINANCE 2017-36 AND REINSTATING THE ORIGINAL OPERATION OF ORDINANCE 2017-22 RELATING TO A SEMI-ANNUAL TRANSFER OF \$21,850.00 INTO VILLAGE HALL NOTE RETIREMENT FUND #3401. 1st Reading. No discussion.

ORD. 2019-25 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2019 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading. Jenny explained that the appropriation increases are to accommodate the transfer in 2019-24, and to appropriate the Cemetery Trust donation to the new police car.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules by Paula Tubalkain, 2nd by Bob Gaglione - **All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve by Dave Sluka, 2nd by Bob Gaglione – **All Ayes**

ORD. 2019-26 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ADVANCE REPAYMENT FROM THE BUCHERT PARK WALKING TRAIL FUND #4201 TO THE GENERAL FUND #1000 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules by Bob Gaglione, 2nd by Marty Hura - **All Ayes**
- ❖ Motion to approve by Scott Weaver, 2nd by Bob Gaglione – **All Ayes**

ORD. 2019-27 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 951 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILAGE OF MANTUA REGARDING THE PARK LODGE. 1st Reading. Dave Sluka asked if the only changes are to the time that talks about granting access to the lodge on the prior evening. Mayor Clark said it also adds additional charges for things like not cleaning or taking out the trash.

Department Heads and Village Engineer

Police Chief Urso:

Next Safety Meeting will be July 3 at 6:00 pm

There have been sightings of an approximate 300 pound bear on the west side of the village, and also between Dudley Road and Mantua Center Road, mainly at night.

Canada Road is currently closed due to High water.

Our S.R.O. Officer has resigned from her position and we are looking at other options.

Village Administrator John Trew:

He has been busy working on negotiations with the county. He, the Mayor, Michele, a representative from CT, Gene Roberts and Tia along with their attorneys from the county all went to Beaverdam Ohio to attend the SCEIG program (Small Community Environmental Infrastructure Group) and gave a presentation regarding a merger between the county and the village. In attendance was Sherry Loos from the state who John has worked with in the past. If we are approved, they may absorb some of our debt prior to the transfer of ownership. John reviewed some options for various loans including rates and term periods. It would be best for us to present as "regionalized" with the county for better scoring. There are other factors such as our poverty rate, and lead pipes that could be considered. Currently, our poverty rate is 19% and climbing. We might need to do an LMI (Low to Moderate Income) study. Portage County Regional Planning might help with this. John said that we also need to do a lead line study to see how many homes might still have lead pipes. Residents will be receiving something in the mail on this.

Village Engineer from C.T. Consultants:

Rich noted that Council has his written report. The pre-application for the rest of West Prospect was done in time. Regarding the reservoir, he met with the county at the water treatment plant regarding rehabilitating the tank. Rich got the impression that we should consider replacing the tank instead of rehabilitating the reservoir cap, doing a whole new structure with bolted steel. He thinks that the northeast quadrant would benefit with a tank that is 10 feet higher. Rich is working on getting quotes for a new tank. The unknown factors about the reservoir are concerning. We don't think the tank has ever been emptied, and you don't know what might happen. So we are reviewing this and looking at the project budget.

Paula said "So you are going back to totally look at the project and redesign it and reengineer it, is that where the Reservoir Rehabilitation bill for \$4500 on the addendum Bills of Resolution comes in?" Rich was not aware of the invoice. He thinks it must be a current bill for the services. He said they did the survey, site plan and other concepts. Paula is frustrated that after more than a year and all of the studies to have the lid replaced, all of a sudden maybe we should not be doing that, we are looking at replacing the whole thing. She asked why this didn't come up before?

Rich said that they did decide to do a temporary tank in the report a year ago. Paula said yes, a temporary tank. Rich said it is a permanent tank that is a smaller volume to work as a standby while we rehabilitate the existing tank. It will remain as a permanent 50,000-gallon tank.

Paula was concerned that now he doesn't know if the existing structure can support the roof repair. What she is hearing is that he is saying that we should totally replace the current existing structure because he does not feel comfortable with it supporting the replacement of the roof.

Rich said that they can fix the tank to put the new dome on it for a cost that is now in design with additional structure reinforcement needed to support the dome. It can be done for a cost. He said that is why he suggested last month that we revisit this.

Paula asked if this smaller tank that can raise it 10 feet is a reserve tank. Rich said it would be a replacement. If we invest in a tank to replace the existing, we might as well raise it to serve better pressure to the village.

Rich said in order to do the grant application, they needed to do a preliminary study to see what the cost would be to build a tank while we fixed it. Rich said it is a process to try to figure out the right way to do the job. Right now they are trying to figure out the best way to do the job, and they will give a recommendation as soon as they have one.

Bob said he thinks Rich is trying to do his due diligence by giving us options to rectify a situation. Rich said he could have just proceeded and told us that we would need extra money to fix that dome. We have two years to spend the grant, and we are just trying to do the right thing. We are discovering things along the way that we didn't know a year ago. We are not able to take the cap off. We are having to do a structural analysis to figure this out. Mayor Clark said he has been telling us for the last two Council meetings that there could be more cost.

Scott asked if the county has given any input. Rich said that was their input, to put up the new tank. Mayor Clark asked if the current tank will be emptied, the underground tank, could it pop similar to people with in ground pools. Rich did not think it would. It is brick. Scott asked if they could build pylons around the tank that would support the new cap. Rich said that is what they are working on now. Before doing an exhaustive search on that, we are looking at replacing the tank.

On another topic, Jennifer Brown from CT informed Rich that our Matts Road bridge made it on the 2019 bridge repair list of eligible projects. Being on this list, means that ODOT could fund the project. Mayor Clark said Kate Rogers got us on the National Bridge Registry a few years back, which made all of this possible. Rich said we can now apply for funding to replace the bridge. The application is due July 1, and will be awarded in 2020, with funding coming available in 2023. The construction costs are estimated at \$600,000 for just the bridge, not the road. The grant would pay 95%. That would leave \$30,000 for the local share, on the construction side.

The estimated cost to the village will include the cost of environmental studies, estimated to be about \$40,000. Fortunately, plans were done about 18 years ago, so they only need to be brought up to ODOT standards, plus construction management throughout the project. Engineering and environmental studies should come to about \$110,000. With a \$30,000 local share for construction, this gives us a total amount of village funds estimated to be around \$140,000. Mayor Clark said that at the AMATS breakfast, they said with our gas tax increase, they recommended putting the increased amount into a capital project fund. It would be around 62% or \$30,000 additional money per year. Rich said in the application we would commit to using our estimated additional funds in the amount of \$33,000 per year to be put towards our local amount. We have three plus years to apply to OPWC towards our local share.

John said there will be money in a "True Up" grant that can be used towards engineering, planning, and design. They can be stacked up on top of other grants to do what we can with this application.

Mayor Clark asked if the design still has the piers in the water. They think it would be better for the people canoeing, it might be better to change it to a span design. Rich said they would have to go back to their structural design, which would be extra cost. They did a hydraulic model to make sure the flood waters pass underneath, so anything they do to raise the bridge to accommodate a longer span will mean also raising the road. The design minimized the grade on either side. Sue Steinberg asked if the current design will allow for canoes or kayaks to pass underneath when there are not floodwaters. Rich said he didn't know. He didn't think so. Rich said to do the application should not be more than \$1,000. Mayor Clark said Council needs

to decide if they want the application filled out. Dave said we need to move forward. Paula said we need to move forward with this, especially with the redesign to get the bridge up and out of the water. Paula said she has the bridge design that was created years ago that met all of the standards and got the bridge out of the water, that Rich did not like. The Mayor said we are not going there. Rich said the entire cost of the bridge including construction, engineering and studies will be about \$700,000.

Scott suggested to apply for \$900,000 and if it isn't enough to cover what we want to do, then we just won't do it. Scott said the engineering will cost more, not the studies. If we submit what we have, then we are stuck with a bridge with pillars in the water, which isn't that bad, but the deadfall that builds up there is what causes the problem with the current bridge.

Rich could inquire of the structural staff to see if they could quickly surmise what this would add, such as 20% more, or what it would be. When you design the bridge to clear the 100-year flood, and now we are raising it, which at the time was not in the cards, 20 years ago. That could make it a million dollars. Scott wants to move forward but really thinks we need to look into the clear span bridge and see what we can do as far as the funding. The businesses are asking us to do something, and we need to do something. Rich said we would have to fill and grade.

- ❖ Scott Weaver moved to have C.T. Consultants apply for the Matts Road bridge grant through the ODOT Municipal Bridge Program authorizing a fee of \$1,000 to C.T. Consultants for completing the application, with a second by Bob Gaglione. All ayes on vote.

Mayor Clark asked if there is an update from Jennifer Brown on widening of Orchard Street to present to the businesses to take a look at. They would either have to widen it on the north side which would be taking part of Compass parking lot and moving a few poles and a hydrant, or going on the south side and lose some of the parking spots by the building. Rich said those options are being worked on.

Committees

Scott Weaver for Service, and Planning:

Service- John explained to the Service Committee about stacking grants, and he was schooling them on everything he has been doing with the county negotiations.

Planning – They had a rental housing inspector attend the meeting who critiqued the inspection process that they have been working on. It was real informative. The Planning Commission thought they would be ready this month, but now realize we still have work to do. The inspector from Windham will also be coming to one of our meetings. They might ask the Finance committee to look at fees for this as well.

Bob Gaglione for Fire Board:

The Chief and Assistant Chief are interviewing candidates for four open positions. They are getting quotes for door and window repairs. They are also reviewing the full time tests for applicants.

Marty Hura for Parks and Shade Tree:

Parks had first reading for amending the use of the lodge. Part of the parks are currently underwater. Parks and Shade Tree June meetings have been cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Mayor Clark for Cemetery, and Board of Zoning Appeals:

She will be recommending that the Cemetery Board meets to discuss damaged headstones.

There is nothing going on with the BZA.

Paula Tubalkain for Portage County Regional Planning: She did not attend this month.

Dave Sluka for Safety and Finance

No Safety Meeting.

The Finance Committee reviewed the legislation and also discussed the On Call comp time. This is going to be reviewed further.

New and Other Business- none

Anything else that may properly come before Council

Paula said based on the previous comment made about a Councilman wanting to put a larger flag on our flag pole out front, she has been riding with her brother Hal, and she has learned that the size of the flag is determined by how much wind the flagpole can withstand. Hal was asked and has done structural analysis on flagpoles for several entities including the City of Ravenna and the City of Willoughby, which he did for free. We were charged \$3,500 for this same structural analysis from CT. They should be able to give us the size of flag we could put up there based on our structure analysis.

Also, at Planning Paula brought up the wall on SR 44 and what are we doing about it. Hal said we would need a structural analysis on it. He is also willing to do it for us for free, but if the village would prefer, he would charge about \$900. He is a licensed, bonded professional engineer. Her point is, maybe we should be taking advantage of some of the people in our community instead of always paying a fee to CT.

Mayor Clark said once the Headwaters Trail LLC property owner responds to Johns letter about the wall, he has directed them to three different sources to contact for the engineering. We cannot tell them who to use. As far as the engineering on the flag pole, she asked if we have been billed. Jenny said yes, just under \$4,000. Mayor Clark said we do try to use companies that are local, and thanked Paula and said it was a very good suggestion.

Rhonda Pikus asked if Council was planning to do anything in her area of West Prospect Street. Mayor Clark said they applied for an OPWC grant that was due the beginning of June, then they would give approval in August, and if we are approved, the money would be available to start work next summer.

Adjournment

❖ Motion to adjourn at 8:21 by Bob Gaglione, seconded by Scott Weaver. -All Ayes

Mayor Linda Clark

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer