

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
August 17, 2021
6:30 PM

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Ben Prescott, Tammy Meyer, Scott Weaver, Heather Paisley, and Marty Hura.

Other Village Personnel: Mayor Linda Clark; Village Solicitor, Michele Stuck, Police Chief Joe Urso, Village Administrator Maryann Fabian, and Gene Arters of C.T. Consultants.

Citizens Present Jen Sobczak, Bob Ress, Cookie Vanek, Jon Harris from Portage County District Library, Sue Wilson, and Paula Tubalkain.

❖ Motion to excuse Chuck Peterson by Tammy Meyer, seconded by Scott Weaver. All voted aye.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Clark said the Potato Festival people did sign the addendum to the special event form.

She also informed Council that we received our first check from the electric aggregation grant which was \$2,330.00, and we will need to use this money to update our electric.

Mayor Clark said she wrote three letters to Portage County in support of three grant requests that will benefit our residents. The three grants the county applied for were water distribution, water lines, and the inner-connect.

Also, regarding the Hilltop Church concerns, 2.78 ESU's (Equivalent Service Unit) which makes their monthly surcharge without water and sewer \$179.47. One ESU is \$64.56. She sent the letter to the Portage County Commissioners, and they sent it to Portage County Water Resources (PCWR). PCWR said they have already reduced it and were not going to reduce it anymore. They recommended that Council sends a letter requesting that they consider reducing the surcharge by 10-15% off the ESU only. Mayor Clark recommends that after a few years Council can look at taking away the discount if the surcharge for us has been reduced after the annual re-evaluation. St. Joe's only has sewer and they have 6 ESU's and Hilltop has 2.78 ESU's. The Lutheran Church has 3.09 ESU's. She recommends giving the Lutheran Church a discount on 2.09 because they have the residential parsonage. Ben said we need to get the churches as much discount as we can get. Tammy would like to reduce their surcharge by 15% with them coming back periodically. Ben and Scott agree. Heather asked if it can go higher than 15%. Mayor Clark said their reduction in surcharge may cost everyone else more.

❖ Motion to ask PCWR to reduce the surcharge for churches by 15% and reevaluate when the county does their reevaluation by Scott Weaver, seconded by Tammy Meyer. All voted aye.

Citizens:

John Harris, Director of the Portage County District Library introduced himself. He said they just finished up the summer reading programs, they offered virtual and curbside, online, mobile hotspots, and express boxes. Portage County United Way followed Dolly Parton's program of providing one book per month per child that enrolled. Residents pay about .24 cents per year for libraries. No money from county or property taxes. They are the third worst funded library in Ohio

out of 251. They are talking with 22 local governments about their tax levy. A one mil levy will cost the average \$100,000 home owner about \$35. They are also looking at a grant for a book mobile, however, they would still need funds to get it on the road. This levy would help.

Sue Wilson, a resident of Canada Road wants to ask about the proposed legislation banning roosters in the village. She lives in a rural residential district of the village and has a 15-acre farm. Her kids have raised chickens and roosters for the fair. Her family down the road has roosters. She wants to know why rural residential cannot be excluded from this legislation.

Scott Weaver and Tammy Meyer said we can take it back to Planning. Scott said in town there are people with roosters pecking on people's front door and digging up their flower beds. Sue said she understands not having roosters in the other districts, but not rural residential. Scott said we will take it back to Planning. Mayor Clark said the Planning Chair thought rural residential was exempt. Michele said what is being proposed is village wide.

Paula Tubalkain, another resident from Canada Road also has concerns about this legislation. Out of 13 homes on Canada Road, 5 or 6 have 5 or more acres. She personally loves the crowing in the morning. It is part of living in rural residential.

Mayor Clark said all of Council received a letter from another neighbor on Canada Road that would like to support allowing roosters in rural residential districts.

Financial Reports:

Jenny said she is getting settled into her new office. She loves all of the extra room in the file room across the hall and may be moving some filing cabinets out of Council chambers.

Jenny said we received our first deposit of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds last week in the amount of \$53,423.04. There were no questions on the financial reports.

- ❖ Tammy Meyer moved to approve the Financial Reports with a 2nd by Scott Weaver. All voted yes.

Correspondence:

Mayor Clark has received an email from one person, Lauren Weaver, who is interested in filling the vacant seat on the Cemetery Board.

- ❖ Motion to approve appointing Lauren Weaver to the Cemetery Board by Ben Prescott, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote. All voted aye.

Bills of Resolution, Addendum Bills of Resolution

Mayor Clark asked what we do with our visa rewards. Jenny said we buy office supplies.

- ❖ Motion to approve the Bills of Resolution and the addendum Bills of Resolution by Ben Prescott with a 2nd by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.

Minutes:

- ❖ Tammy Meyer moved to accept the minutes from the July 20, 2021 regular council meeting, with a second from Ben Prescott. All ayes on roll call.
- ❖ Ben Prescott moved to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2021 council workshop with a second from Tammy Meyer. All voted yes.

- ❖ Scott Weaver moved to approve the August 3, 2021 special council meeting minutes with a second from Marty Hura. All voted yes.
- ❖ Motion to accept the August 11, 2021 special council meeting minutes by Scott Weaver with a second from Heather Paisley. All voted yes.

Legislation:

ORD. 2021-30 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 157.02 OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA CODIFIED ORDINANCES CONCERNING PERSONAL INFORMATION RECORDS KEPT BY THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA. 3rd Reading. No discussion.

- ❖ Motion to approve by Ben Prescott, seconded by Heather Paisley. All ayes on vote.

ORD. 2021-32 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SCHEDULE 305.02 AND SECTION 400.01.F OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL USES. 1st Reading.

- ❖ Motion to send back to the Planning Commission for further review by Ben Prescott, seconded by Tammy Meyer. All ayes on vote.

RES. 2021-37 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VILLAGE ENGINEER CT CONSULTANTS TO ACT AS THE VILLAGE'S DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE ON THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION "WORKSWISE" WEB PORTAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

Mayor Clark said all local governments will now be assigned a portal. Our normal paperwork will not change, but everything will now be filed through this portal. Ben Prescott thinks Council needs to have some involvement in this portal. Heather Paisley thinks some portals require payments being made through the portal, and she wondered if Jenny will also have access. Gene thinks this is more for grants and is going to check with Rich Iafelice and find out more details. Jenny said she does go on to review reports in order to match with the UAN, and she also downloads invoices.

ORD. 2021-38 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 by Tammy Meyer, seconded by Scott Weaver. All ayes on vote.
- ❖ Motion to approve by Marty Hura, seconded by Tammy Meyer. All ayes on vote.

ORD. 2021-39 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE APPOINTED POSITION OF VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 733.262, AND ABOLISHING THE ELECTED POSITION OF VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER. 1st Reading. No discussion.

ORD. 2021-40 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 410.02 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA REGARDING FENCES, WALLS AND HEDGES. 1st Reading. No discussion.

ORD. 2021-41 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 480.07 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA REGARDING RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES. 1st Reading. Michele said this is coming about

because we have a property owner that is incarcerated and this will help us to hold someone else accountable for maintenance issues. There will be a public hearing on all of these zoning resolutions next month at 6:30 to be followed by the regular Council meeting.

ORD. 2021-42 AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 723 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA. 1st Reading. Heather Paisley asked if we can put a list of approved vendors on our website. Michele said yes.

RES. 2021-43 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF RAVENNA FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SALT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading. Mayor Clark said the price has dropped to \$43.76 per ton.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules by Scott Weaver, seconded by Tammy Meyer. All ayes on vote.
- ❖ Motion to approve by Scott Weaver, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.

RES. 2021-44 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA TO CERTIFY MOWING CHARGES TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE TO BE PLACED AS AN ASSESSMENT ON THE LISTED PARCEL NUMBERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading. Mayor Clark said we do this every August. Michele said we suspend the rules because there is a deadline at the Portage County Auditor's office.

- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules by Tammy Meyer, seconded by Scott Weaver. All ayes on vote.
- ❖ Motion to approve by Scott Weaver, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.

ORD. 2021-45 AN ORDINANCE FINDING THE BID OF _____, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE RECYCLING AND TRASH SERVICES WITHIN THE VILLAGE, TO BE THE LOWEST AND BEST BID SUBMITTED, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH SAID BIDDER. 1st Reading. Mayor Clark said Kimble is the lowest bidder with slight increases every year. They have an opt in for business recycling. Rumpke did not even include a quote for recycling service.

- ❖ Motion to amend to fill in the blank to Kimble Companies without fuel surcharge by Ben Prescott, seconded by Scott Weaver. All ayes on vote.
- ❖ Motion to suspend the rules by Scott Weaver, seconded by Heather Paisley. All ayes on vote.
- ❖ Motion to approve by Scott Weaver, seconded by Heather Paisley. All ayes on vote.

Department Heads and Village Engineer

Police Chief Urso:

Chief Urso said they did not have a meeting this month. They are focusing on the Potato Festival which will take place September, 10, 11, and 12. The Potato Stomp is at 9:00 am Saturday and the parade is moved up from 2:00 pm to 1:00 pm on Sunday. Their next Safety meeting will be Sept. 1 at 6:00 pm. Chief received a donation of \$100 from a resident.

- ❖ Motion to approve the donation by Ben Prescott, seconded by Heather Paisley. All ayes on vote.

Regarding the police reports, Tammy Meyer asked a question about the Dollar General on the police activity reports. Chief said it is a count of patrol checks. Heather Paisley asked what mini cites are. Chief said they are misdemeanor citations. Heather asked if most of the accidents are in the same area of concern. Chief said most are on Main Street. Mayor Clark asked if we should put up a sign for no u-turns because she sees it happening a lot. Michele said it is in our ordinances.

Village Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Maryann Fabian said the report is in the Council packet. She also wanted to add that she is getting a roof repair at the mausoleum. It looks like it will cost \$650. The lodge window will be replaced at a cost of \$1,215. That will come out of Park Improvements and will take 5-6 weeks. The backhoe is down until Friday when Paul can come and take a look at it. The parts are ordered. Scott asked if we should start thinking about buying a backhoe. If it goes down during plowing we are in trouble. Maryann said they met and discussed getting bids. The service team thinks once the radiators are put in, it should be in good shape. Jenny asked if we can tie it to infrastructure and use some ARPA funds towards the cost. Michele said we only have storm sewer infrastructure and it might be a stretch. Mayor Clark said maybe the cemetery trust might pay a portion as well.

Gene Arters from C.T. Consultants:

Gene said Council has his report. Buchert Park Phase 3 was sent to the Village Administrator and she forwarded it to Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources for final approval. Regarding Capital Planning, for the OPWC Round 36 for W. Franklin we were below the line, but we can apply for a small government grant. House Bill 168 provides additional funding from Ohio Dept. of Development (ODOD) which allows for every county to apply for ten projects with up to 5 million dollars in construction and 5 million dollars in design for a total of 10 million. The county rates projects on a scale from one to ten to submit to ODOD. Mayor Clark said Portage County is submitting for three village projects; the inner-connect, replacing all waterlines, and water distribution. Gene said water and wastewater projects score the best. West Franklin did not have a big enough impact to benefit a large area, or fix an EPA issue.

Committees

Scott Weaver for Service, and Planning:

Service- The Cemetery Board was at our meeting. The rates and fees at the cemetery need to be increased. We are not breaking even. We will work with Collin on a time study, and the cemetery board will make a list of possible increases. We got numbers from other communities and we are really low. The service committee also talked about brush chipping. People are leaving logs. We are going to enforce the rules that are in place. We have sent letters with our chipping policy to offenders. They also talked about organizations using the lodge for free and without paying a deposit, then not cleaning it after they are done. They also talked about crack sealing and coordinating with Shalersville and Mantua Townships.

Planning- They talked about sidewalks, worked on the legislation for food trucks, and maintenance issues. The Mayor and Maryann are addressing some complaints relating to the old Middlefield Bank building.

Tammy Meyer for Finance-

Tammy said at Finance we reviewed legislation and the financial reports.

Marty Hura for Safety, Parks and Shade Tree:

Parks: Parks look great. He noticed some fill in the driveway and it came from Stamm's.

Shade Tree: They did not meet last month, but when they meet they will talk about replacing trees that have been removed and whether or not we need to work with the property owner, or if they want to contribute to the cost. The next Parks and Shade Tree meetings will be tomorrow evening.

Mayor Clark for Cemetery & Board of Zoning Appeals:

Cemetery- We are working on the mausoleum roof, and prices for gravesites. She was contacted by Kevin from Portage Marble and the KIA Memorial should be done by the end of September. She also has gotten a few calls from donors about the ceremony we will have. Some want to have it next year, some right away, possibly having the band and speakers there, the man from North Jackson who gives out flags, and a company that wants to come and do a presentation. There is a lot to coordinate. Some donors want to have something at the lodge after the ceremony with refreshments. Scott said he thinks it should be done this year if there is time so it doesn't lose its luster. Mayor Clark was planning to send invitations to donors and participants. Scott said maybe we can talk to the fire department about using the bay area so we have more room. Mayor Clark will work with Tim Benner and the Cemetery Board on a date.

Board of Zoning Appeals- Nothing going on.

Ben Prescott for Portage County Regional Planning:

PCR-CP- Ben said the subdivision regulations only apply to townships at this time. Michele said we enacted the village subdivision regulations in 2017.

Heather Paisley for Safety:

Heather said the Chief has previously mentioned the front steps needing replaced. The steps down by the road need work also. The rocks around the front down by the road need a re-do, so she talked to United Stone in Solon and they are willing to donate a slab of marble. They have some other remnants as well. She will talk to their fabricator about cutting it for us. It is a small project and they know we are working on a budget, so they are willing to work with us. Heather described the design with a built-in bench, which she thinks they would install for free. Tammy said cutting into the hill may be a big project. Maryann asked if the steps along the front of the building will get a ramp. Chief said we would have to come from the north side of the building, and then there is still a step to come inside, so they just use the regular doorway entrance off the parking lot. Heather said she will get quotes. Another option might be a paver stone retainer wall, but that would be asking for a huge donation. We would have to work out drainage. Scott said the steps should be our first priority. Tammy asked if we have a building fund to pay for this. Jenny said no, but we have carryover money that we can appropriate.

Chuck Peterson for Fire Board: Chuck was absent.

New and Other Business- nothing

Anything else that may properly come before Council- nothing

Adjournment

❖ Ben Prescott moved to adjourn at 8:07 with a second from Heather Paisley. All ayes on vote.

Mayor Linda Clark

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer