

VILLAGE OF MANTUA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 20, 2023

Call to Order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Clark

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Steve Thorn, Kevin Maloney, Nina Schroeder, Marty Hura, Tammy Meyer

Others Present: Mayor Linda Clark, Solicitor Michele Stuck, Chief Joe Urso, Village Administrator Ryan Klemm, and Fiscal Officer Maryann Fabian

Citizens Present: Chuck Peterson, Mike Tinlin, Corey Turnbull, Brooklynn Meyer, Riley Meyer, Crystal Klemm, Miranda Brothers, Sue Steinberg, Sam Paratore, Edie Cawley, Renatoa Prescott, Faith Petricini, Morgan Grubaugh, Cathy Sherbondy, Kevin Brown

Fill Vacant Council Seat

Mayor Clark recommended the vacant council seat be filled by Chuck Peterson, who the council had already interviewed at the last council meeting. Roll Call Vote: Tammy Meyer-aye, Marty Hura-aye, Nina Schroeder-aye, Kevin Maloney-aye, Steve Thorn-aye. Michele Stuck swore Chuck Peterson in as the next Councilperson.

Mayor Clark presented Renata Prescott with a Proclamation and made September 15th Ben Prescott Day, for his many years of service to the village.

Mayor Clark presented the Mantua Wine and Chocolate Walk special event form which will be on October 14, 2023.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to approve the special event form. Kevin second. All ayes.

Mayor Clark said that there is an open seat in Planning Commission and that Steve Thorn has requested to be on the commission as a citizen.

- ❖ Nina made a motion to approve Steve Thorn to the Planning Commission. Tammy second. All ayes.

Citizens

Renata said that her husband, Ben was an ethical man and that everything he did for the village was with the citizens in mind.

Sue, the representative for the DMRC reminded everyone about Art on the Hill, there will be 80 vendors and 4 wineries.

Financial Reports

Maryann went over the financial reports. No questions.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to approve the financial reports. Tammy second. All ayes.

Correspondence

Maryann read a letter from Michele about her retirement which said that when she retires next year she will also be closing down her website business and that the Village will need to find a replacement to administer the Village website.

Approval of previous Minutes – 5.16.2023

Nina requested to make an amendment to the minutes. The second page, halfway down the page she wanted to add that the 3 copies of the letter that Sam passed out to council to share was a letter of support that she had written to the Portage County Prosecutor's Office in support of Scott Weaver. Nina expressed concern about retaliation and intimidation from Sam. It was decided that because that was not part of the discussion held on May 15, it could not go in those minutes, but could go in the 6.20.2023 minutes.

- ❖ Nina made a motion to approve the 5.16.2023 minutes. Tammy second. All ayes.

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Legislation:

ORD. 2022-50 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to take Ord. 2022-50 off the table. Nina second. All ayes except Chuck who abstained.

Tammy wants to pass this as it is, and if they want more changes in the future then they should bring it up another time. Michele stated that since the Ordinance has not been amended to include the additions suggested at the last workshop, these need to be read into the minutes and the amendments formally approved. Tammy read those changes. The changes were as follows:

In SECTION 18 add, *Section 2.4.A.6 of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby repealed.*

Add the following sections:

SECTION 19. Section 3.2.A of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby amended as set forth in "Exhibit P", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 20. Section 3.3.A of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby amended as set forth in "Exhibit Q", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 21. Section 5.3.A of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby amended by adding the Juneteenth holiday of June 19th, as set forth in "Exhibit R", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 22. Appendix B of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby amended as set forth in "Exhibit S", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 23. Existing Appendix O of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby repealed and is reenacted, with references to "Longevity" removed, as set forth in "Exhibit T" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 24. Section 3.2.C of Ordinance 2010-24 is hereby enacted as set forth in "Exhibit U", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

"Exhibit A" add the following words, to maintain the objectivity of supervising, to avoid situations where potential conflicts of interest could occur, and to prevent the appearance of impropriety to the public. Applicants should disclose such relationships prior to their employment or transfer.

And add a third paragraph as follows:

It is important that village employees guard against relationships which might be construed as evidence of favoritism, coercion, unfair advantage, or collusion. Although the Village of Mantua has no prohibition against people in these relationships working together, we are committed to monitoring situations in which related persons work in the same area. In the case of actual problems, reassignment to another task or position may be necessary.

"Exhibit P" remove the words works forty (40) hours per week or more. Add the word is.

"Exhibit Q" add the words except the K9 vehicle.

"Exhibit R" add the words Juneteenth (June 19th). Add the letter B.

"Exhibit S" add the word Juneteenth. Add OP&F.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to amend as read. Kevin second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Steve second. All ayes.

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ORD 2023-16 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CHAIN OF COMMAND POLICY FOR PATROL OFFICER MIRANDA BROTHERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mayor Clark read the amendment that she was requesting. It was also passed out in the council packets. Nina Schroeder asked Mayor Clark to publicly state the actions that have been taken since the investigation has now ended. Mayor Clark replied that she was waiting for this legislation to pass before she did anything about discipline, but so far since the investigation started, Mayor Clark has been doing Miranda's evaluations, pay increases, approving vacation time, anything to do with her, and now she wants it in writing. Kevin Maloney stated that he feels an individual's name should never be in legislation, and that he feels that the community, Chief Joe Urso, Officer Brothers and Council all want to move on. Michele said that since this policy is a departure from what is in the employee handbook, it needs to be in writing and approved by Council. Kevin said that when Council changes the handbook they should change this policy. Nina Schroeder said that she would like to express her opinion: Two meetings ago we had an executive session and Nina requested that Mayor Clark respond directly to the two letters from Amanda Murphy and Donna Paxton who tendered complaints. Mayor Clark said that she would not respond to this because it has nothing to do with this investigation. Nina Schroeder asked the mayor to respond to who lied to Council, either her or Chief Urso, about the romantic relationship, who lied about the training, and to respond to Sergeant Dunn's call to action. Nina said that Mayor Clark was willfully ignoring Council's request. When those requests were made Mayor Clark said that she would do her job, and feels that she has. Nina said that she feels Mayor Clark has not.

❖ Tammy made a motion to postpone indefinitely. Nina second. All ayes.

ORD 2023-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA IN ORDER TO PERMIT BREWPUBS, MICROBREWRIES AND MICROWINERIES AS A CONDITIONAL USE IN THE VILLAGE CENTER AND COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICTS. No discussion.

ORD 2023-20 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 305.09(b) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, IN ORDER TO PERMIT ADDITIONAL PARKING ON ELM STREET.

❖ Kevin made a motion to suspend the rules. Tammy second. All ayes.

❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Chuck second. All ayes.

RES 2023-22 A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2023-21 WHICH ACCEPTS THE LOW BID FOR THE 2023 ROAD PAVING PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

❖ Tammy made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes.

❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Steve second. All ayes.

ORD 2023-23 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2023 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

❖ Kevin made a motion to suspend the rules. Steve second. All ayes.

❖ Steve made a motion to approve. Tammy second. All ayes.

RES 2023-24 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 FOR THE YEAR 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

❖ Steve made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes.

❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Marty second. All ayes.

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RES 2023-25 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE 2006 CHEVROLET SILVERADO TRUCK NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPOSE OF THIS EQUIPMENT BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- ❖ Marty made a motion to suspend the rules. Kevin second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Marty second. All ayes.

RES 2023-26 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE 2005 CUSHMAN TRUCKSTER NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPOSE OF THIS EQUIPMENT BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to suspend the rules. Chuck second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Marty second. All ayes.

RES 2023-27 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE FEDERAL MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes.
- ❖ Marty made a motion to approve. Kevin second. All ayes.

RES 2023-28 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO KAWASAKI MULE SX 4X4 UTILITY VEHICLES USING CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to suspend the rules. Chuck second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy made a motion to approve. Marty second. All ayes.

ORD 2023-29 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, OHIO FOR THE TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024 AND THEREAFTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- ❖ Kevin made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes except Tammy who abstained.
- ❖ Steve made a motion to approve. Marty second. All ayes except Tammy who abstained.

Department Heads and Village Engineer-

Police Chief Joe Urso summarized the safety meeting. He talked of the complaint of the smell at Mantaline, the Soap Box Derby and the Art on the Hill. He said the department helped with a squatter on a business owners' property and that he received a K9 donation.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to accept the \$100 K9 donation. Marty second. All ayes.

Village Administrator Ryan Klemm thanked the council for passing the legislation pertaining to the service department tonight. He talked of the timing of Buchert Park Phase IV, changing vendors for lawn mowing and portable toilets, the Reservoir Dr. manhole project. He talked of the cannon project, the road paving and the drainage at Village Hall. He also requested that the Cemetery Board have a meeting.

The report from Village Engineer, Gene Arters, from C.T. Consultants is turned in and on file.

Committees:

Steve Thorn summarized the Finance meeting and said that the audit was finished.

Mayor Clark said that Ryan already took care of Service meeting information, and she said that Planning Commission is working on Village Center, and AirBnB.

Tammy Meyer for PCRCP turned in the minutes from the meeting. She said that there is a fact sheet for the electric vehicle corridors. At the Fire Board meeting she said that there are 6 candidates for the Full-Time position. That tanker #1 needs to be repainted but it is under warranty. Tammy then read the letter of commendation for 2 fire fighters.

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Nina Schroeder summarized for Parks and Shade Tree meetings. She said that they are working on Buchert Park Phase IV, V, VI developments. She requested an eagle eye view of the park so when they are discussing the park they can see the areas they are discussing. For Shade tree they discussed the rotting tree that needed to come down, the sidewalk and now that the trees are in bloom they can see trees that need to come down.

Mayor Clark said that for Cemetery, and Board of Zoning Appeals, Ryan had already addressed them. Steve Thorn said that the Chief already summarized for Safety.

Any Other Business

Tammy reminded everyone about the ethics class, and that she took it again to print off the certificate.

Maryann thanked the village emergency services for their quick response in saving her husband's life. She also thanked the village and Mayor Clark for being flexible and letting her work from home, while her husband is recovering.

Eddie Cawley complained about the portable toilet on the property of 10692 Maple St. Ryan Klemm addressed this complaint and stated it was on private property.

Adjournment

❖ Tammy made a motion to adjourn at 7:54 PM. Kevin second. All ayes.