

VILLAGE OF MANTUA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
July 18, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

**Public Hearing on Ordinance 2023-17, which would amend the Mantua Village Zoning Code in order to permit brewpubs, microbreweries and microwineries as a Conditional Use in the Village Center and Commercial zoning districts within the Village of Mantua.**

Mayor Clark called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 PM. She explained the what this was, and asked the room if there were any questions. Nancy Whaley asked where the Village Center zoning district was, and the mayor explained. There was concern that this could let these establishments in an area that was inappropriate. Michele explained it was conditional use, it would have to go before Planning Commission to be approved.

Public Hearing adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Mayor Clark brought the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence doe Nancy Dumont and Joan Siman

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

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

Citizens: Miranda Brothers, Corey Turnbull, Nancy Whaley, Phil Rath, Beth Sluka, Sam Paratore, Brooklynn Meyer, Riley Meyer, Lauren Weaver, Jessica Colegrove, Zachary Colegrove, Wendy Davis, Morgan Grubaugh, Faith Pietrocini, Cookie Vanek

**Mayors Report**

Mayor Clark reported that Art on the Hill was held on July 8<sup>th</sup>, and had a great turn out. The event is one of many that the DMRC and Chamber hold annually. The funds they raise go to many projects in the Village such as the trails at Buchert Park, the village just applied for phase 5. Without their contributions the many things at the Park would not get done. They are also raising funds along with the Businesses owners on the East side on Main St to remove the stairs and put in a patio at store front height. The group was awarded CDBG funds for that project. They were awarded funds to enhance the front facade of the 3 businesses involved.

**Citizens**

Phil Rath talked about the success of Art on the Hill had been and said that every year they look to improve on the previous year. He also thanked Mayor Clark and Ryan Klemm for coming to the DMRC board meeting.

Beth Sluka said that she works at the butcher shop and she is excited to see everything come together in the village.

**Financial Reports**

Maryann went over the financial reports. Tammy did not have any questions about the financial reports but she brought up a comment that she had made at the Finance Committee, about the village's spending. She stated that in March of 2021 we were at 1.59 of our appropriation, and on page 8 of 8 of the Revenue Status the village is at \$1,591,232. As we have gone on this year we have adjusted the appropriations to 1.910. If we are only bringing in 1.59 and using 1.91, Tammy believes we are using more than we are bringing this year. Maryann asked why she picked March of 2021 to compare, and Tammy explained that was the information Maryann had given her. Maryann wanted to make sure the audience knew that this was not the department heads spending the money, it was council that approved these appropriations. Tammy wants everyone to be aware of where the village's spending. There were no more questions.

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

VILLAGE OF MANTUA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
July 18, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

**Correspondence**

Mayor Clark announced that Portage County is holding a recycling event.

Mayor Clark also said that she and Michele had a meeting with Diane Oress from CT Consultants. CT Consultants will not be renewing their agreement with the village, but will complete the projects that are on the books. Diane sent a letter dated June 26, 2023, but the listed projects were not all correct. Mayor Clark sent a response on June 27 and asked for corrections to be made but has not yet received a response. Mayor Clark also spoke with Rich Iafelice and he is checking into this. It will be on the agenda for Service to see how the village should move forward. Tammy asked if Mayor Clark was going to read the letter that she received. Tammy passed out a copy of the letter to council and said that she is very concerned about why CT Consultants is not working for the village anymore. Marty asked who did we blatantly mistreat? Tammy said that she spoke with Gene Arters and Diane Oress. Gene had told Tammy that he told his manager that he no longer wanted to work for Mantua Village because of the toxic relationship, and that was part of the reason. Kevin asked Tammy if CT Consultants cited any specific examples. Tammy replied that yes they did, but she did not want to share them because it was a private conversation. Nina asked how long had CT Consultants worked with the village before this. The mayor replied since 1986. Nina asked the mayor to comment, and the mayor replied that she would not because she does not want to throw CT Consultants under the bus. Nina wanted to know what happened, and the mayor said that she had worked with CT Consultants for 12 years and had not had a problem. Marty said that the letter does not tell the village anything other than they no longer what to be the village engineers. Kevin said that he would like specific reasons, and the mayor said that she was not given any specific reasons why, other than what the letter states. Nina asked Michele if she had any other information, and Michele replied that she only had the information of the letter, the meeting with Diane was very short. Mayor Clark said that for the meeting she and Michele were ready to work on a new contract with CT Consultants, and Diane Oress came in, sat down and said that CT Consultants would no longer be working with the village except the projects that were on the books. Tammy and Nina kept questioning the mayor for more information. Mayor said that Buchert Park Phase III was the first incident, and CT Consultants almost dropped the ball with a deadline. Another incident was Phase IV & Phase V for Buchert Park the mayor had sent an email to Gene about the changes, and when she did not get a reply, she called him. Gene said that the mayor needed to give him two days to respond to an email, and the mayor had told him that she did not feel this way. Gene told her that he did not like her tone, and that she was being disrespectful. That was the extent of the conversations with him. During this whole time that the Village went from Rich Iafelice to Diane Oress, the mayor has always included Diane on the emails as she did with Rich Iafelice, and not one time did she respond or chime in when the mayor was asking questions. Nina said that we need to change how we are professionally and Marty said that they (CT Consultants) need to be professional and provide information to prove their point. Marty stated that if Tammy was not willing to pass out all the information, that she should not have passed out anything. Tammy replied that this was all she had. Marty disagreed and said no, you had a conversation with them, and then he asked they did not tell you why? Tammy did not reply.

**Approval of previous Minutes – 6.20.2023**

Tammy would like the name *Joe* put in front of Urso. She would like *Grubaugh* after Morgan, *Brown* after Kevin, *Cawley* after Edith. Tammy also wanted to add to Edith Cawley's complaint about the portable toilet on Maple Street, *where Ryan Klemm addressed this complaint and it was on private property*. Nina asked that more detail be added to the discussion about Ord 2023-16.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to table the minutes until next council meeting. Kevin second. All ayes.

VILLAGE OF MANTUA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
July 18, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

**Legislation:**

**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.

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

**RES 2023-30** A RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2023-28 AND RATIFYING THE PURCHASE OF TWO KAWASAKI MULE UTILITY VEHICLES USING MONIES FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND THE STREET CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

**ORD 2023-31** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2023 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Michele said that this needed to be amended in the “Whereas” clause to add the language “and to support a transfer of \$4,239.44 to Fund 4201”, and in Section 1, the Increase amount amended to \$5,239.44, and the New Total amended to \$1,454,280.44.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to amend this legislation per Michele’s statement. Marty second. All ayes.
- ❖ Kevin made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes.
- ❖ Steve made a motion to approve. Mary second. All ayes.

**ORD 2023-32** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 159.03 AND 159.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, RELATING TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MANTUA VILLAGE HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION. This was the first reading. Tammy wanted everyone to be aware that she pushed for a council member to be on this commission.

**ORD 2023-33** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4.7 OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK REGARDING UNIFORM ALLOWANCES.

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

**ORD 2023-34** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND #1000 TO THE BUCHERT PARK WALKING TRAIL FUND #4201 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

**Department Heads and Village Engineer:**

Police Chief Joe Urso said that there was no safety meeting but he did go over the Potato Stomp contract with Barb Cymanski. He also asked for approval to pay the TAC bill for the 3-year renewal.

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

Village Administrator Ryan Klemm said they have received one of the utility vehicles, and the service department is working on cleaning up the other vehicles to sell. They have done the tear out on the park, and they are keeping up with the mowing. The Road paving Project is complete. The drainage project at village hall, the cannon project, and the elevators repairs have all been completed. Ryan wanted to make sure that people knew that he is the one that got rid of the mowing company. They were not doing the job. This would free up about \$10,000. He also got rid of the cleaning contract. This would free up an additional \$4,000. Ryan wanted to comment about the CT Consultants conversation that happened earlier. He said that he felt CT

VILLAGE OF MANTUA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Consultants to be intelligent, capable, but they don't have time for this village. He said that if CT Consultants were paying attention, we should have been approved for the W Franklin project the first time it was submitted. He feels we should not be using a large firm for little projects.

**Committees:**

Tammy Meyer said that Ryan already has gone over the Service meeting, and the Planning meeting. Steve Thorn for Finance said that everything has been covered.

Tammy Meyer turned in the minutes for PCR, and Fire Board they have narrowed the search down to one candidate, who happens to be female. She will be going from part time to full time.

Nina Schroeder summarized the Parks Meeting. She said they talked about the restroom construction, and many ideas to collaborate with the DMRC. They discussed Landscaping programs and long-term plans. She said at Shade Tree they did not talk of anything consequential.

Mayor Clark said there were two burials for the Cemetery. The Board of Zoning Appeals granted one variance.

Steve Thorn said there was no safety meeting.

**Any Other Business**

Tammy thanked the Chief and the patrol officer that had come to her families aid on 7.5.2023 when it was needed. The neighbor had called her and said that the police officer had gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Tammy also wants to amend the council rules to include the following:

- All Council Members will receive all committee packets via email
- Committee chairs will follow the Employee Handbook, Section 2.5 Employee Evaluation System #2 paragraph two.
- Council members will take the Ohio Sunshine Law and the Ohio Ethics Law each year and turn the certificate into the Fiscal Officer for audit purposes.

Michele said she will prepare draft legislation on this for next month's Finance Committee Meeting.

Tammy wanted to get the budget workshop on the calendar. It will be scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

**Executive Session**

Mayor Clark requested an executive session concerning employee discipline.

- ❖ Tammy made a motion to go into executive session for employee discipline at 7:30 PM. Steve second. Roll call vote: Marty-aye, Steve-aye, Chuck-aye, Nina-aye, Kevin-aye, Tammy aye.
- ❖ Steve made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:21 PM. Marty second. Roll call vote: Marty-aye, Steve-aye, Chuck-aye, Nina-aye, Kevin-aye, Tammy aye.

**Adjournment**

- ❖ Marty made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 PM. Chuck second. All ayes.