

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY JANUARY 26, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Binder, Dishong, Flaiz, Koons, Porter, and Wolfe
OFFICIALS PRESENT: Police Chief Wetzel, Building Commissioner Hocevar,
Street Commissioner Johnson, Solicitor Ondrey, Engineer
Voldrich, Fiscal Auditor Lechman, Fiscal Officer
Romanowski
OFFICIALS ABSENT: Engineer Foley

Mayor Brett called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Fiscal Officer read the roll. Koons moved to waive reading and approve the minutes of the January 12, 2009 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, Flaiz, Koons, Porter and Wolfe. Binder and Dishong abstained. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor referred to a draft agreement for the ambulance billing distributed to Council. Mayor said he expects to have a signed deal between the Village and the Fire Department prior to March 1st.

Mayor said the Human Resource Committee and Fiscal Officer met to review the draft HR audit report from Dylan, Iosue & Associates. Mayor said there were questions regarding the report and he will follow up with Mr. Iosue on that.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer reported that she filed the year end balances with the County and she is waiting to get the Certificate of Estimated Resources back from their office.

Fiscal Officer reported that the Village received property tax bills for properties the Village owns. She stated the Village owes property taxes on the rental property of approximately \$3,400 per year. Fiscal Officer reminded Council that last year the Village applied to get the park properties declared as tax exempt status through the state which is a process that can take anywhere from six months to three years for approval. Until that status is given, the Village will be taxed on that property. Fiscal Officer said she spoke to the County Treasurer's office who said the Village will continue to be billed and they can pay it now and get reimbursed later once the park is declared tax exempt or hold off and not pay. Mayor stated there is some confusion about the agricultural use of the property and the tax rate the property was taxed at. Mayor said he would contact the new County Auditor to discuss the agricultural use taxing status of the property and get his input on the issue.

As Tax Administrator, Fiscal Officer reported that December tax collections which was the January deposit consisted of gross collections of \$73,860.17, refunds of \$900.00, overhead of \$10,800.00 for a net deposit of \$62,120.17

FISCAL AUDITOR'S REPORT: Fiscal Auditor had no report.

Binder said he would like to set up a meeting with Finance Committee, Fiscal Auditor and Fiscal Officer to discuss the investments of the Village funds, possibly looking into CDs which could give the Village higher interest.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer Voldrich reviewed the report Engineer Foley distributed to Council.

Regarding the possible Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) project, Dishong said he believes there are other things in the Village that need to be done and are more important. Flaiz said he doesn't see any safety issue and hasn't heard any resident complaints for the proposed area. Mayor said he feels there are other problems in the Village that would be more important than the one proposed. Wolfe made a motion to withdraw the Village's application for the Ohio Public Works Commission Bell Road stormwater infrastructure enhancement project, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

There was brief discussion about the proposed Phase II stormwater ordinance. It was decided that the Building Committee would review it and have a recommendation for Council at the next meeting.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Building Commissioner informed Council that his department sent a letter to Chagrin Falls regarding dispatch for the tornado siren.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Police Chief said department received a grant for \$6,926 which would leave \$769 for the Village to pay for the digital 800 radios.

Police Chief explained that the Village's dispatch cost is based on the prior year's usage. In 2008 the dispatch cost was \$57,260 and for 2009 costs will be \$46,917 which is about a \$10,343 reduction in the cost of dispatch for 2009. There was brief discussion about officers using the MDTs more than calling into dispatch and that contributing to the cost reduction as well as conversation about whether or not that same system could be used with the Sheriff's office.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Street Commissioner scheduled Saturday, May 9th for the Spring Trash Day with the senior pick-up being May 6th and 7th.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor brought up the issue of flood plain maps and wanted to make sure that the Village is aware of this issue because Council would need to do an ordinance if there were any changes. Mayor said Engineer reviewed the maps last year and a map was wrong so Engineer Foley corrected it. Fiscal Officer said she recently received a report regarding the flood plain maps that she forwarded to Engineer Foley. Mayor asked Engineer Voldrich to make sure Engineer Foley has the ball on this

issue and make sure there aren't any action items or timing issues the Village needs to be aware of.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Binder had no report

Wolfe said the Public Utilities committee will meet at noon on Wednesday January 28th at Yours Truly in Chagrin Falls to discuss centralized trash.

Dishong reported that it looks like through the County the Village will be able to get upgraded laptops with in-car video funded for by the County. Dishong said all of this is possible because the Village is on the Spillman software. Chief said along with this package, they will include high speed wireless air cards which the County will pay for the first two years. Chief said this equipment would cost the Village approximately \$8,000 to \$9,000 per car if the Village had to pay for it. It was stated that it is possible that installation may also be included – bus as of now, that is tentative.

Flaiz said Safety Committee would be requesting a very short Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Koons said HR Committee is reviewing job descriptions and other issues from the HR audit recommendations.

Porter made a motion to allow Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Engineer to prepare a bid package for the 2009 Road Program for Bishop Dr., Dorset Dr. and Royal Oak Dr. with an alternate of Anglers Dr. and possibly some minor repairs on Bell Road, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Regarding the South Russell Village Park, there was brief discussion about where to put a memorial forest. Parks Committee will discuss this and come back to Council with a recommendation. Porter said the Village was notified by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy regarding the conservation easement and an issue of encroachment by one of the property owners on Daisy Lane. Porter said he believes it would be a good idea to send a letter to the property owners along Daisy Lane that border the park to let them know what the boundaries are, that it's Village property, and it's not to be used as somebody's extension of a back yard or a place to dump things.

BILLS LIST:

Dishong made a motion to approve the bills to be paid 1/30/09 totaling \$17,308.38, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS: Wolfe, Binder, Dishong, Flaiz and Porter had no new business.

Koons said the multi-purpose people met again and they are getting organized. Koons said the group has been in contact with Geauga Park District for their insight.

Flaiz made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before Council, Flaiz moved to adjourn, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer