

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.  
PRESIDENT PRO TEM WILLIAM KOONS PRESIDING**

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

President Pro Tem Koons called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Fiscal Officer read the roll. Wolfe moved to waive reading and approve the minutes of the February 22, 2010 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** President Pro Tem mentioned that Council would be going into Executive Session later to discuss personnel compensation.

**FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT:** Fiscal Officer reported that a letter was mailed to all Maple Hill residents to inform them that Senator Grendell will attend the Trash Public Hearing and Council meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Fiscal Officer stated that the financial bank reconciliation has been completed for February and balances with the Fiscal Auditor.

Fiscal Officer informed Council that insurance information is available if anyone would like to review it.

Fiscal Officer stated that the auditors should be on site until the end of next week.

**FISCAL AUDITOR’S REPORT:** Fiscal Auditor distributed the Cash Management Report as of February 28, 2010. The first Franchise Tax payment was received for the year. The Village receives three percent for a total of \$7,000. An estimated payment for Real Estate Taxes of \$435,000 was received. Income Tax Revenue totaled \$600,000 for February. Total bank balance is \$1.87 million.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Engineer Foley told Council that he and Joyce Bond have been working with the Cemetery Committee and the consultants on the business plan. A proposal will be prepared for Council.

The Phase II Stormwater report has been submitted. There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, to discuss a proposed erosion and sediment control ordinance.

Engineer Foley reported that bids were received for the Road Program. Specialized Construction was the lowest bidder on all segments. The next step is for Council to make a decision regarding what work will be included in the 2010 program.

Engineer Foley stated that work at the park to prepare the land for fields would still be substantial even after boundary lines have been modified. He stated that even with the modified plan, the cost would be a couple hundred thousand dollars to move all the dirt.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Building Commissioner stated there would be a Planning Commission meeting on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Snap Fitness will be moving into Washington Center. The fitness facility will occupy 3500 sq. ft. and be open 24 hours, seven days a week.

Flaiz asked the Building Commissioner if any action is being taken with real estate taxes for the Ho property on Maple Hill. Building Commissioner said the Mayor would make the final decision about that issue.

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief reported that the Village received the final award agreement regarding the radio grant. The Village will be responsible for a little over \$900. The total award of the project is approximately \$9,400.

The 75/25 grant of \$35,000 that the Chief had previously reported was awarded to South Russell will now be covered 100%; there is no match. The estimated \$8,000-9,000 to complete the project has been reduced to approximately \$1,000.

**STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Street Commissioner reported that the Village server was down temporarily for an upgrade on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Street Commissioner stated a Street Committee meeting was held earlier today. A decision was made to order salt now at a lower price instead of waiting until the beginning of winter season later this year.

Street Commissioner reported that the budgeted repairs to the one-ton truck have been started.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** No report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Wolfe and Binder will be meeting next week to begin bid preparation for the trash proposal.

Binder brought up a discussion that originally started during a budget work-session regarding possibly setting aside a portion of inheritance taxes into a Capital Improvement Fund for the Village. These funds would be used for large maintenance projects that arise. The current ordinance states all inheritance tax is deposited into a Special Land & Building Fund. The formula would need to be finalized as well as a definition of what capital improvement projects will include before an ordinance can be written. Binder will prepare a couple of scenarios for this formula to be discussed at the next Council meeting. The Properties Committee will work on a precise definition of capital improvements to clarify how the money could be spent. Fiscal Officer will contact the County Auditor to get information in regards to setting up a Capital Improvement Fund.

Binder said that a strategic planning meeting is being planned to discuss the financial future of the Village. Binder will check with the Mayor regarding a date in April.

Dishong referred to an e-mail sent regarding the \$200,000 that was budgeted for the Road Program. As Chairman of the Streets Committee, Dishong is wondering if it makes good business sense to pave Manor Brook in two years. He stated if all of Manor Brook was paved in one year, it would potentially cost less, it would eliminate construction traffic on the newly paved portion the following year, and it would only disrupt the residents one summer rather than two. The Street Commissioner gave a history of work done on Manor Brook. Engineer Foley and the Street Commissioner believe that completing a somewhat larger program this year and scaling back next year to prepare for the paving of the west end of Bell the spring of 2012 might be the best plan. The budgeted amount for the 2010 Road Program is \$200,000. To pave all of Manor Brook this year would be \$340,000. Mayor will be consulted and a decision made if this is even worth pursuing.

Dishong asked that newsletter articles be submitted by the end of March.

Flaiz stated that the contract is expiring with LEADS (a state-run program that gives a criminal history when police run license plates). Flaiz made a motion authorizing the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chief to enter into an agreement with Ohio LEADS for 2010, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Flaiz reported South Russell is a member of CRIS, which is how information is shared by Dispatch for Geauga and Cuyahoga counties. This agreement runs from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Flaiz made a motion authorizing Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Police Chief to enter into an agreement with CRIS, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Koons reported that the Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) would be holding an emergency drill this year. The group would like to meet with the 22 homeowners' associations in the Village to choose a rep from each neighborhood. The group would then meet with these representatives to discuss the plan and then eventually run an actual drill.

Koons reported that Fiscal Officer Romanowski would be attending the Association of Public Treasurers' conference/classes in South Carolina.

**BILLS LIST:** Flaiz made a motion to ratify the 2/26/10 Bills List #2 in the amount of \$24,642.75, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Flaiz made a motion to approve the bills to be paid on 3/15/10 in the amount of \$10,722.39; seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

**NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:** Wolfe made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:28 p.m. to discuss employee compensation and potential litigation; seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Councilman Porter arrived at 8:35 p.m. Council reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before Council, Flaiz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Binder. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

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Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

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Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by: Becky Peterson  
c: My Docs/Word Docs/Council Minutes