

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Porter, Wolfe, Binder, Dishong, Flaiz and Koons
OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Auditor Lechman, Fiscal Officer Romanowski,
Police Chief Wetzel, Street Commissioner Johnson,
Solicitor David Ondrey and Engineer Foley
VISITORS: Hannah Zaim, Girl Scout; Dick Baker, Waverly Lane; and
Connie Rigotti, Chester Township

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 May 24, 2010 Public Hearing regarding Zoning, seconded by Flaiz. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Koons moved to waive reading and approve the revised minutes of the May 24, 2010 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Flaiz. Roll call: ayes – all. Motion carried.

Hannah Zaim told Council about her phone book recycling project for which she received the Girl Scout Gold Award. Hannah collected over 2,000 phone books from 254 houses. Some businesses in South Russell also participated. Hannah wrote a letter to the Editor of the Chagrin Valley Times, which raised even more interest in her project. She spoke with younger Girl Scout troops in the Chagrin Falls District about being green and recycling. Hannah reported that South Chagrin Metro Parks and Geauga/Trumbull County Solid Waste District are the only locations for Geauga County residents to recycle phone books. Hannah proposed that South Russell offer phone book recycling during Trash Days to make it more convenient for residents. Binder asked if Hannah would suggest this project to the younger Girl Scout troops as an annual project. He feels there would be more involvement with this type of recycling project as opposed to residents bringing phone books to Trash Day. A discussion followed about the possibility of offering phone book recycling during Trash Day or Shredding Day.

Dick Baker asked Council how the Village gets taxes from part-time employees who work on a contractual basis. Fiscal Auditor explained that a twelve-day rule is in effect. If you work in a community more than twelve days, you are required to pay taxes to that community. Flaiz reported that South Russell has contractor registrations, which helps to monitor those businesses.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor reported that David Holzheimer has resigned from the Architectural Board of Review (ABR). The requirements for the Architectural Board of Review is it must include two architects and a third member who does not need to be an architect. If this person is not an architect, he/she is required to be a South Russell resident. Mayor would like to appoint Denis Marino to fill the vacant position for ABR. Denis has had years of experience in building and design. Wolfe made a motion to approve Denis Marino as a Board Member for the Architectural Board of Review (ABR), seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor stated that the septic/sewer legislation has passed the House and the Senate and is now awaiting signature by the Governor. The legislation does not include any of the annexation language that was previously added. Mayor would still like the Health Department to visit Maple Hill to comment on how the legislation will affect the South Russell community. By July, Mayor hopes that Council can make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Mayor told Council there are two maintenance issues that need to be addressed at Village Hall. The HVAC system has not been working properly. In order to fix the problem, the automated dampers will need to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$2,200. The elevator in Village Hall needs repair and will cost about \$750 as well as \$100 for the State to repeat the inspection. These two repairs will cost about \$3,300. No maintenance-related expenses are in the budget. Porter made a motion that the Mayor and Fiscal Officer be authorized to enter into a contract for the repairs to Village Hall including \$100 for the inspection by the State of Ohio not to exceed \$3,400; seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor had a request from Pat Hosmer, a South Russell resident, to fly the Canadian flag at Village Hall on July 1st. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Canadian flag would be flown below the American flag on that day. Proper protocol will be followed.

Mayor stated that efforts by Chagrin Athletic Association (CAA) and Chagrin Soccer Association (CSA) to initiate fundraising for the installation of ball fields on the East Washington side of the Park are not proceeding as quickly as they had hoped. Mayor continues to support their efforts.

Mayor asked that Council go into Executive Session later this evening to discuss personnel compensation.

Mayor said that Chagrin Dispatch accidentally triggered South Russell's tornado siren early Saturday morning at 2:45.

Mayor said there are several conflicts for the July 12th Council meeting. This meeting will be rescheduled for July 19th so the majority of Council members can attend the meeting. Koons made a motion to reschedule the July 12th Council meeting to July 19th, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer reported she would be out of the office next week at the Fiscal Officer's training in Stow.

Fiscal Officer stated that the Tax Budget Hearing with the County is Thursday, August 19th, at 10:45 a.m.

Fiscal Officer said a hearing needs to be held regarding the 2011 tax budget. She stated the tax budget needs to be adopted so it can be presented to the County by July 20th. In

order to meet this deadline, Solicitor Ondrey said this could be addressed at the Special Meeting on June 28th. Binder made a motion to add the tax budget to the agenda of the Special Meeting on June 28th, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

As Tax Administrator, Fiscal Officer reported the gross distribution was \$103,076.64. After refunds and overhead, the net distribution was \$89,179.17. The year-to-date is \$533,580.00.

FISCAL AUDITOR'S REPORT: Fiscal Auditor distributed the Cash Management Report. He stated that the ending balance for May wasn't much different than the beginning balance for the month.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer reported that the paving for the 2010 Road Program is done. The Road Program came in under budget.

Engineer stated that the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) application was submitted to the County last week. The Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) application has also been filed.

Engineer Foley has revised the Soil and Erosion Control Ordinance 1466 to include language that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants added. It will be distributed for further discussion after Solicitor Ondrey and Building Commissioner have reviewed it.

Engineer reported that the traffic count has been completed on Bell Road.

Mayor said the feedback regarding the construction crews from residents on Manorbrook was positive. Specialized Construction did a good job managing the project.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: In the Building Commissioner's absence, there was no report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief stated that the Police Department would assist the Bellwood Homeowners' Association with their 4th of July parade.

Mayor thanked the Chief and the Police Department for monitoring cars parked on Manorbrook Drive while the new pavement is curing.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Street Commissioner reported that the Service Department has been working with the Road Program projects, which have included rebuilding a couple of catch basins on Manorbrook, excavation of the Police Department drive and installation of new drainage.

Street Commissioner thinks the Road Program went extremely well. The road crew worked well with the traffic and was very courteous to the residents. The overall outcome is very good. The length of the parking ban will depend on weather conditions. The new pavement needs to cool down which could take approximately 30 days. The ban will be in effect until the signs are removed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Dishong, Flaiz, Koons, Porter and Wolfe had no report.

Binder stated that the Finance Committee would discuss the possibility of setting aside part of the inheritance taxes for emergency capital improvements.

Binder said there was a work session at 6:30 p.m. this evening to discuss the short and long-term financing plan for the Village and the strategies that will effectively get the Village where it needs to be over the next five years. Many different scenarios were considered. Finance Committee would like to recommend that South Russell place an increase on the income tax from 1% to 1.25% on the ballot. The Committee feels that is the proper amount of revenue to cover the shortfall for the next five years.

Mayor said he commends Council and Village officials for working through the potential scenarios and finding the best possible solution for the future of the Village. It is a very complex topic. He feels everyone involved has a very good understanding of Village revenue and expenditures and has made a decision that was necessary.

Dishong said he feels the point has been reached that harm will be done to the Village long-term if nothing is done.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS: Binder introduced an ordinance to put an increase in income tax from 1% to 1.25% on the November ballot.

Binder introduced a resolution to repeal Ordinance No. 2010-20, which requests the County Auditor to certify to the taxing authority the total tax valuation of the subdivision and the dollar amount or revenue that would be generated by a specified number of mils for the repeal of the existing 1993 safety levy. Binder made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Binder made a motion to adopt, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2010-24

Binder introduced an ordinance to amend appropriations increasing Income Tax expenditures \$125,000 and the Service Department fund \$3,400. Binder made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Binder made a motion to adopt, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 2010-25

BILLS LIST: Flaiz made a motion to ratify the May 28, 2010 Bills List #2 in the amount of \$3,416.77, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Koons made a motion to approve the bills to be paid on June 15, 2010 in the dollar amount of \$32,960.28, seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS: Wolfe made a motion authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to donate \$500 to *Show Your Colors* to purchase American flags for the Village of South Russell, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Flaiz gave a brief summary of the Elected Officials' Conference in Washington, D.C., that he and Porter attended.

Flaiz told Council that the Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16th, at 7:30 p.m. A potential new business will be discussed.

Koons had a sign printed to acknowledge Jon VonWaggoner, the Eagle Scout who built the kiosk. The sign will be posted on the kiosk.

Koons reported that the race course has been changed for the Trot for Trail run that will occur the morning of Saturday, July 3rd.

Koons will be meeting with Chief Brosius, Chagrin Falls Police Chief, and Jim Alunni, Fire Prevention Officer, to discuss the CERT Program.

Flaiz made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. to discuss personnel compensation, seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before Council, Flaiz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Koons seconded. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

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