

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 2007 – 7:30 P.M.**  
**MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Binder, Dishong, Flaiz, Koons, Porter, Wolfe  
**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Police Chief Wetzel, Building Commissioner Hocevar  
Street Commissioner Johnson, Solicitor Flynn, Engineer  
Foley, Fiscal Officer Romanowski  
**OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Fiscal Auditor Lechman  
**GUESTS:** Kelly Kimball, Lakeview Lane; Rick Smith, Forest Dr.;  
Andrea Emmerich, Anglers Dr.; Sue Reid, Chagrin Valley  
Times; Joan Rusek, Sun News; Yoram Eckstein, Eckstein  
and Associates

Mayor Brett called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Fiscal Officer Romanowski read the roll. Councilman Dishong moved to waive reading and approve the minutes of the September 24, 2007 Regular Council meeting, seconded by Councilman Flaiz. Roll call – Porter, Binder, Dishong, Flaiz, Koons, aye. Wolfe, abstained. Motion carried.

**VISITORS:** Resident Kelly Kimball informed Council that she and resident Rick Smith met with Mayor Brett and Councilman Koons about pursuing a bike path. Mrs. Kimball says they are still in the brainstorming, researching and creating a mission statement phase. Mrs. Kimball reported she and Mr. Smith will have a booth at the South Russell Village Fall Festival to get the public involved. Mrs. Kimball also stated that former Councilman Sally Butz-Voss has offered to help.

Resident Rick Smith said the bike paths are a great idea and he is glad Kelly is also interested in this issue. Mr. Smith believes bike/walking trails would be good to get children exercising again. There was brief discussion regarding whether the Village owns this right-of-way. In Solicitor Ondrey's absence, Solicitor Flynn said he will look into this further and get back to the Village. Mayor stated that whether the Village owns the right-of-way or not, it has the right to enter that property for certain things. Councilman Binder also encouraged Mrs. Kimball and Mr. Smith to look for grants or people that have experience in this area that could help find grants or funding for a project such as this.

Dr. Eckstein referred to the letter the Village received from the United States Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and told Council that taking measurements is the only way to tell for sure if the water table rises or falls. Dr. Eckstein stated he could do the same work cheaper. Dr. Eckstein stated there are ten wells monitored in the Village, automatic recorders measuring two wells, and eight wells are measured manually. Dr. Eckstein has tried contacting James Morris at USGS about possibly leaving the computer equipment in place in the wells so he can transmit the data in the same language as it is currently being reported. If they are not willing to leave the

equipment, Dr. Eckstein said the replacement will cost no more than \$3,000 for the two wells together. The installation will cost between \$1,000 to \$1,500 per well. Dr. Eckstein said the other eight wells are monitored every other month manually. Dr. Eckstein proposed a cost of \$7,800 annually for him to do all the testing himself. Mayor asked if the cost could be reduced by monitoring less wells. Dr. Eckstein replied that the cost would not decrease that much - most of the cost is in the traveling and collecting the data. Mayor said we monitor water quantity but not the quality. Dr. Eckstein said this can be done very easily at a very reasonable cost. Mayor asked Dr. Eckstein to put together a proposal to the Village to do the well monitoring quantity along with the water quality and include that as an option.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor reported that the third and final meeting regarding the septic/sewer issue will be Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Gurney School. Gus Saikaly from the Department of Water Resources as well as Bill Wendel from the County Health Department will be present to give information. Mayor will also discuss the voting process and stated that the voting times will be November 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and November 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Mayor said there was a meeting regarding the initiative for the Village business identification process to identify, track and stay up on the businesses within the Village. Mayor stated a process has been put together so that by January 1<sup>st</sup> the Village can report on the total number of potential businesses within the Village.

Mayor stated there was a strategic planning session earlier this evening which he feels is very beneficial to future planning of the Village.

Mayor told Council the Planning Commission met and continued to work on the conservation district in the northeast quadrant. Mayor was encouraged by the idea that a conservation district is not that different than some of the existing zoning code currently in the Village.

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** Fiscal Officer informed Council she will be out of the office next week for continuing education classes through Kent State University.

**FISCAL AUDITOR'S REPORT:** Due to Fiscal Auditor's absence, there was no report.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Engineer Foley stated his office is finishing up the contract documents and plans to put this project to bid later this week.

Regarding the Road Program, Engineer stated the prevailing wages have been submitted and approved and the estimate payment should be ready to be paid. Engineer also received the final total number of the project which was \$127,402.6 and stated that this is a significant amount less than previously anticipated.

Engineer reported that the flood plain maps were incorrect. Engineer notified the county and the representatives of the maps and they are correcting them and will send the Village corrected maps.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Building Commissioner stated that the Emerald Lakes property dispute regarding the fence has been resolved.

Building Commissioner reported the gas well on Snyder Road is out and the property has been restored.

Wolfe informed Building Commissioner that she received information that there is a Chagrin Therapy placard at 107 Laurel – doing business out of the house. Building Commissioner will look into this.

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:** Police Chief informed Council that he and his committee are doing research for the possibility of acquiring in-car video cameras to be included in the 2008 budget.

Police Chief said the training for the Spillman software has begun and the software is extremely comprehensive and will do many things. Chief stated that Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> his department would go live with entering data into the system. Police Chief said that one day during the week of November 5<sup>th</sup>, one of the Spillman technical people will be at the station to help configure the computers.

Police said he and his committee are putting together the bid specs for the new cruiser. Once the budget is finalized, Police Chief would like to go out for bids in January and get the order placed.

Police Chief reported that last year his department got two new cruisers because they felt there would be a reduction in vehicle maintenance cost. Police Chief said it appears the cost savings in 2007 over 2006 will be in excess of \$10,000.

**STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Street Commissioner said the ODOT agreement went to Columbus for a signature and he hopes to get it back soon.

Street Commissioner said the Trash Day is October 20<sup>th</sup>. He has received calls for the senior pickups with the west end of the Village on the 17<sup>th</sup> and the east end on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> his department is keeping free for the Fall Festival set up, etc.

Street Commissioner said Jeff Pausch has been doing a great job, jumped right in and has a lot of good ideas.

Street Commissioner said his committee would be meeting tomorrow to work on the budget.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** In Solicitor Ondrey's absence, Solicitor Flynn asked if Council wanted Solicitor Ondrey to put together a franchise fee ordinance to get that in motion. Solicitor reported this is not necessary at this time because Time Warner has not given notice but other communities have passed an ordinance regarding the issue. There was brief discussion about a franchise fee ordinance as well as discussion about setting the franchise fee. Solicitor Flynn will look into these issues and get back to Council.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Porter reported that he met with the properties committee and drafted the Mission Statement for the Parks Commission. Porter made a motion to adopt the Mission Statement stating, "The South Russell Village Parks Committee is dedicated to the preservation, protection, maintenance and improvement of Village owned property designated as parkland for the benefit of Village residents. The Parks Committee, under the auspices of the Village Council, is the steward of Village's recreational property." There was discussion regarding wording in the Mission Statement and clarifying the statement. Porter withdrew his original motion to adopt. Porter then made a motion to table the motion seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Wolfe stated she had the draft letter as well as the draft ballots for the opinion poll completed.

Binder reported that he had received some of the budget worksheets back from the departments and requested to get the rest back by the end of the week.

Dishong said the newsletter went out and thanked everyone for his or her help.

Dishong stated that the plans for the South Russell Festival are coming along well and there looks to be a lot of fun activities planned.

Flaiz referred to a draft of an ordinance that the building committee looked at restricting the number garage sales a resident can have during the year. There was brief discussion about the number of garage sales a resident should be allowed to have in a year as well as what constitutes a garage sale.

Koons stated he would like to go into a short Executive Session to give an update on Human Resources and where the Village stands with benefits for employees for next year.

Mayor stated that scheduled Council meeting November 12<sup>th</sup> is a holiday and would need to be moved to November 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

Flaiz introduced an ordinance restricting the number of sales from any dwelling in the Village with the change being limited to three sales per calendar year.

**BILLS LIST:** Dishong made a motion to approve the bills to be paid 10/12/07, seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

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

Koons made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and compensation, seconded by Flaiz. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

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

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Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer