

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY OCTOBER 22, 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 Ondrey, Engineer
Foley, Fiscal Auditor Lechman Fiscal Officer Romanowski
GUESTS: Carol & John Ponikvar, Sheerbrook Dr.; Karen Wise,
Edgewood Court; Dick Baker, Waverly Lane; Liz O'Neil,
Reserve Trail; Ted & Kyle Kruse, Bell Road; Mary Kay
O'Toole, Foxhall Drive; Steve Thompson, Potomac Drive;
Bethany Hurtuk, Deer Court; Martha Jagucki, United States
Department of the Interior; Barbara Stiebeling, East
BelMeadow; Sue Reid, CVT

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 Binder was absent. Councilman Koons moved to waive reading and approve the minutes of the October 8, 2007 Regular Council meeting, seconded by Councilman Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Binder arrived at 7:33 p.m.

VISITORS: Mayor thanked Ted and Kyle Kruse for providing the hayrides for the South Russell Village Fall Festival. Mayor thanked them for their contribution of the tent, the farm equipment and the hayrides.

Mayor introduced individuals who are running for the Chagrin Falls School Board which included Karen Wise, Liz O'Neil, and John Ponikvar.

Steven Thompson, Superintendent of the Chagrin Falls School System, made a presentation to Council regarding the upcoming school levy on the ballot. Mr. Thompson said all the information is online at the school website as well as at www.chagrinfallslevy.com.

Stephanie Hurtuk thanked all those who are supportive of the school levy and informed them that school levy signs are available for anyone who would like one.

Mayor introduced Martha Jagucki from the Department of the Interior with whom the Village has an agreement with for well monitoring. Mayor reminded Council that Dr. Yoram Eckstein addressed Council at the last meeting with regards to well monitoring and Mayor felt the Department of the Interior should also be allowed to address Council. Ms. Jagucki distributed a handout to Council and reviewed the information in that handout. Ms. Jagucki explained that the Village has 9 wells it monitors for the Village

and the 10th is part of the county network; 2 of the wells are set up with equipment to monitor continuously. Ms. Jagucki explained that the benefit of monitoring well level is to show long-term trends of water level. If an individual installs a septic system or basement during a drought year, they may have a surprise when the water level rises in a rainy year. As for installing wells, it helps to know what the maximum one would expect the water level to drop to for construction purposes. Ms. Jagucki stated a website will be available within a couple of months that will contain information and data for people to go to for reference and stated this data can also be used to enact watering bans. Ms. Jagucki said she feels it is important to continue the water quantity testing, but she also realizes it would be cheaper to have a student at a university do it. She stated the U.S. Geological Survey has people oversee quality control with 2 people at a well every time. The automatic data wells require calibration and more experience is required. The data is accessible, it is on the internet, and it can be linked to the website. Ms. Jagucki said she agrees there is a need to test water quality as well as the quantity as is presently collected. There was a brief discussion about an approximate cost for water quality tests. Ms. Jagucki gave a very rough estimate of \$500 to monitor one well for water quality. Mayor asked her to put some prices together and get back to Council. Ms. Jagucki also stated that cutting back on the number of data points may reduce the costs of the testing and maybe the Village can reduce costs. The agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior ended the end of September 2007, so they need a decision from the Village by the end of November if the Village will continue with them or not.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor said the Fall Festival was very successful and thanked Dishong and Koons to putting it together as well as everyone else that helped. It is estimated that approximately 700 people attended the event.

Mayor thanked the Street Department and volunteers for their hard work on another successful Trash Day.

Mayor reported that the 3rd and final septic meeting was held on October 11, 2007 with approximately 90 attendees.

Mayor stated it has been decided that the opinion poll will be November 1st from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and on November 8th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For residents that cannot come to Village Hall on the 1st of the 8th they can call Village Hall and make arrangements to vote between the 1st and the 8th. After the 8th, the Public Utilities Committee and the Mayor will get together to tabulate the votes with the initial results being presented at the Tuesday, November 13th meeting.

As follow up to the strategic planning meeting held before the last Council meeting, Mayor reported that with regards to possible tornado sirens for the Village, he followed up with the Chagrin Valley Intergovernmental Group (CVIGC) that is going through a study regarding this topic. They have not gotten real numbers yet but at this point in time, the preliminary cost estimates per site are \$20,000-\$25,000. Police Chief said that he looked up a past quote, which was for equipment for two sirens, and it was \$17,000 but that did not include hook up or installation. Mayor stated that the CVIGC is going

through a group bidding process and he has asked the group if the Village could piggyback what they do. The Village isn't committed to purchasing but if they get a special price by having a larger quantity, then possibly the Village could do that. Mayor stated Mia Moore from First Energy was at the last Council meeting and stated it may be possible to receive some funding from First Energy.

Mayor reported that the Geauga Farmer's Market has officially concluded for the year. Mayor thanked Koons and Flaiz for their help with parking throughout the Farmer's Market. Dishong made a motion to have the Farmer's Market back at the Village next season, seconded by Flaiz. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor said the Village has received phone calls and letters from residents interested in being on the cemetery and park boards. Wolfe asked if members of these boards can only be residents or if previous residents were eligible. Solicitor said it is his belief that there is a residency requirement.

Mayor announced that the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for October 24th is cancelled and the next meeting will be November 15th at 7:30.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer told Council her continuing education classes through Kent State University last week were very informative, she learned a lot and did a lot of networking.

There was brief discussion about who was going to the HB 9 seminar on Wednesday. Those attending will be Wolfe, Dishong, Flaiz and Fiscal Officer.

As Tax Administrator, Fiscal Officer referred to the report given to Council with October income tax collections with a gross of \$45,809.20, refunds of \$1,546.51, overhead of \$1,740.00 with a net deposit of \$42,522.69.

FISCAL AUDITOR'S REPORT: Fiscal Auditor referred to report distributed to Mayor and Council and reported that the interest rate has gone down which will have an effect on our interest income. Auditor believes the Village will meet the projected revenue for the year, or come close to doing so. Auditor reported expenses tend to get bigger towards the end of the year.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer reported that the bid opening for the Chelsea Court project is Friday, October 26, 2007 at noon. The published estimate is \$375,000 and the scheduled completion date is June 30, 2008. Engineer said he did include an alternate in the bid to totally resurface Chelsea Court in the event that there was money inside the program. Part of the restoration work will be some specialized landscaping in four areas. Rather than include this work in the contract, his office will be working directly with a landscaper to get this work restored to the satisfaction of the property owners.

Regarding ownership of right-of-way discussed at the last meeting, Engineer did some research and believes there is 60-foot of usable right-of-way on Bell Road from beginning to end.

Engineer stated he is still awaiting final paperwork from Kokosing to process the final release.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Building Commissioner referred to the last Council meeting when Wolfe mentioned a home occupation on Laurel. The home occupation is within Village parameters, they do have a zoning permit, and the sign permit is going to be issued for resident with home occupation.

Building Commissioner reported that the septic tank pumping within the Village is 98% in compliance.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Police Chief said the research for the in-car video camera systems has been completed and his committee has a product in mind that they will be recommending for the 2008 budget.

Police Chief said the training for the Spillman software is mostly complete with some portions of that software still being trained. His department is on schedule to begin entering data into the Spillman system during the first week of November.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Street Commissioner informed Council that he received the signed agreement from Ohio Department of Transportation. They will be coming out to go over some of their procedures of salt storage.

Street Commissioner reported that Fall Trash Day was typical with collecting less than the spring. The Streets Department went out Wednesday and Thursday and collected from 34 seniors throughout the Village. Street Commissioner reported that 245 vehicles participated in the trash day on Saturday.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Regarding right-of-way dedications, Solicitor said this would almost have to be researched on a lot by lot basis but he doesn't believe there would be any issues on Bell Road. Other parts of the Village would have to be looked at more carefully.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Wolfe had no report.

Binder said there would be a Finance Committee meeting on October 30th at 4:30 p.m. to take a preliminary look at the budget and do the preparation for the budget review meeting, which will be November 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Dishong said there is one more newsletter to go out this year around the winter holidays.

Dishong reminded Council that his committee would like to do a more significant road program next year, therefore when working on the budget, this amount will be significantly higher.

Dishong said the 1-ton truck in the streets department needs to be replaced and that is another significant item in the 2008 budget.

Dishong stated another expense in the budget for the police department is the in-car video.

Flaiz said that Safety Committee would like to go into Executive Session for personnel issues.

Koons said that Human Resources would like to go into Executive Session for compensation.

Porter distributed a revised mission statement for the Parks Committee. Porter made a motion to remove the original mission statement for the parks committee from the table, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Porter made a motion to amend the original mission statement to the following; “The South Russell Village Parks Committee is dedicated to the preservation, protection, maintenance and improvement of Village owned property designated for parks. The Parks Committee, under the auspices of the Village Council, is the steward of the Village’s parks and shall fulfill its duties for the benefit of all Village residents”, and moved to adopt this motion, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor gave second reading on ordinance restricting the number of sales from any dwelling in the Village with the change being limited to three sales per calendar year.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:

Koons reported that Halloween Trick-or-Treating will be the same as Chagrin Falls which is October 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Porter said that he and Wolfe will meet before the next Council meeting to talk about the next step regarding the Parks Committee which will be its composition. They will have a recommendation for Council at the next meeting.

Flaiz made a motion to adjourn into executive session for personnel, compensation, and benefits, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

Porter introduced an ordinance to accept quote from Althan's Insurance for health insurance for the Village for 2007-2008 and declared an emergency. Wolfe made a motion to waive further readings seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Wolfe made a motion to adopt, seconded by Binder. Roll call - ayes all. Motion carried. Ordinance 2007-38.

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

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer