

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014 – 7:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Binder, Carroll, Dishong, Koons, Kostura, Porter.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Police Chief Rizzo, Street Commissioner Johnson, Building Inspector Heilman, Solicitor Ondrey, Engineer Haibach

VISITORS: Barbara Stiebeling, East Bel Meadow Lane; Faith Pescatore, Novelty; Cindy Nairn, Whitetail Drive; Patty Mills, Manor Brook Drive; Gary Dole, Maple Hill Drive; Russ & Pat Zajaczkowski, Maple Springs Drive;

Mayor Brett called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Fiscal Officer read the roll. Dishong moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of the November 24, 2014 Council meeting, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Pescatore from Russell Township discussed her disinterest on having the circus return to South Russell Village in hopes that Council will approve an ordinance prohibiting circuses within the Village limits. Council didn't have any comments and will revisit the issue at their second meeting in January.

Russ and Pat Zajaczkowski of Chagrin Lakes asked if there were any updates on the Lantern of South Russell project. Mayor said he discussed this topic with the Solicitor and there are a couple of issues that need to be resolved. The Village will ask Mr. Makesh to use some of the deposit to cover costs associated with flocculants and studies. Zajaczkowski brought attention to some concerns from OEPA.

Cemetery Committee members Nairn and Mills attended the meeting to address any questions or concerns regarding the price list presented. Binder would like more time to review the numbers and feels the prices should be a little higher. He added that he doesn't feel the numbers should be based off of a market. Mayor asked Council to have a recommendation at the next meeting.

Engineer Haibach explained the hydrant portion of the well that wasn't included in the Ayers Well Drilling quote for the cemetery. He believes the Village will come in approximately \$2,500 less than the contract amount for SiteTech's work so the balance will cover the cost of this yard hydrant.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Village is in the final stages of the Bell Road project. ODOT sent Karvo a punch list to complete. The start of the punch list work will begin by April 15, 2015 and must be finished by May 1, 2015. Karvo distributed winter seed last week to hold the dirt in place until spring.

Valley Enforcement Regional Council of Governments (VERCOG) meeting is in Pepper Pike December 9th.

The service garage addition is moving along and should be completed by the end of the week.

Ralph Richards of EnerCom provided a proposal to Council regarding utility accounts. The Village is currently looking into gas rates and the Mayor has asked County Prosecutor Jim Flaiz for his recommendation as he is the Village representative for NOPEC.

The Mayor asked Council members to let him know if they have interest in serving on specific committees in 2015.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: The Fiscal Officer reviewed her monthly report.

The Fiscal Officer asked Council for approval of the Advance of Taxes to submit to the County.

FISCAL AUDITOR'S REPORT: The Fiscal Auditor was not available to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: The cemetery construction is complete for the year with a few items left for next year due to the cold weather. The fence, granite scattering garden path and the well are the only remaining items for the cemetery completion.

The 2014 Road Program is still open but the Engineer is hopeful that should be complete by the end of the year. He is waiting on the construction of a concrete drive apron and also looking for the Village's reimbursement from the County.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT: The Building Inspector stated she is currently receiving registrations for 2015. She also met with Chief and they have determined that the police department garage doors are rusting and will need to be replaced in the near future.

The Building Inspector said she may be able to get her Commercial Plumbing Certificate at the beginning of next year. She added this certification has never been held by the Building Department in the past and would allow the Village to complete these inspections instead of referring them to the County Building Department.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief referred to his monthly report. The "Shop with a Cop" program was held Saturday with seven children from three families participating and shopping at the Walmart in Aurora.

Chief is working on obtaining a proposal for cameras and a security system. He would like give a presentation to Council on the system.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: The Street Commissioner stated the loader to be purchased next year is still the same price as previously quoted.

The Street Commissioner would like to sell the school zone flashers that were replaced during Bell Road west project on GovDeals.com.

The Mayor asked the Solicitor if the Village is able to sell its salt to a local community due to the demand and the fact that the Village might have extra salt remaining after the snow season. The Solicitor said it is a possibility and said the Village would have to sign a contract with anyone it would sell to. The Mayor added that the Village will hold off for now to make sure there is enough salt for our community first.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met last week to review a variance request to permit a home occupation in an accessory building, which also exceeded the permitted size. The applicant, Donna Baumann, designs t-shirts and clothing, which requires the use of a press, dryer and embroidery machine. She was denied a similar proposal about six years ago but requested the use again due to family medical issues. Some of the neighbors present at the meeting were in support of Baumann and one neighbor objected. The neighbor in opposition feels this use shouldn't be permitted in a residential zone. The variance request was denied with a 3 to 2 vote. Ondrey stated that Baumann has expressed interest in appealing the decision of the Board and he was contacted by her attorney.

Flesher has submitted an application for a variance of the Subdivision Regulations to the Planning Commission. The roadway enters in Bainbridge Township and he doesn't have sufficient right-of-way limits. A Public Hearing will be held on January 15, 2015 to review the request.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Binder, Carroll and Porter had no report.

Dishong will need articles for the upcoming newsletter by November 12th and stated that the Finance Committee is requesting approval of the 2015 Budget.

Koons met with the Building Committee and they asked the Building Inspector to obtain quotes for several 2015 projects.

Koons reported that the Parks Committee is working on obtaining a grant for a bathroom at the park. The entire project would cost about \$50,000. The grant is through Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and applications are due by May 1, 2015.

Kostura will be meeting with the Planning Commission to review the Subdivision Regulations variance request on January 15, 2015.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Koons gave third reading on an ordinance amending section 618.13(a) of the Codified Ordinances by permitting mini pigs and regulating the keeping of such animals. Carroll moved to adopt, seconded by Koons. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2014-52**

Dishong introduced an ordinance to approve the 2015 Annual Appropriations: \$989,662 for General; \$2,430,243 for Special Revenue Funds; \$1,380,000 in Transfers; \$55,700 for Capital Projects; \$66,000 for Trust & Agency for a total of \$4,921,605. Dishong moved to waive further readings, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2014-53**

Dishong introduced an ordinance to amend the 2014 Annual Appropriations: Increasing Safety expenses \$3,100; Increasing Operating Salaries and Benefits \$15,000 and Operating other \$10,000; Increasing Income Tax expenses \$20,000. Dishong moved to waive further readings, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2014-54**

Dishong introduced a resolution to approve the Advance of Taxes collected. Dishong moved to waive further readings, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **Resolution 2014-55**

Binder introduced an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Dennis M. Coyne, Esq. to provide Chief Prosecutor Services for 2015 and 2016 at \$110 per hour and declaring an emergency. Binder moved to waive further readings, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Binder moved to adopt, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2014-56**

Binder introduced an ordinance to enforce a curfew in the Village of South Russell.

BILLS LIST:

Dishong moved to ratify the November 28, 2014 bills list #2 in the amount of \$6,419.33, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Koons moved to approve the December 15, 2014 bills list in the amount of \$107,898.87, seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

NEW/OTHER: Binder, Koons and Porter had no new business.

Dishong moved to approve the Cemetery change order in the amount of \$90,782.30, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Carroll asked if any perimeters were set for the new dog leash enforcements at the park. Council will have to discuss further after they receive guidelines from the Park Committee.

Carroll asked if the Village is going to lower the speed limit in the Village on Chillicothe Road. The Lantern of South Russell will bring more traffic and several other Council Members agreed this is a good idea. The Village would have to present a petition to the state.

Dishong attended the Chagrin School meeting for the discussion on the proposed construction at Gurney School and reviewed some of the highlights of the meeting.

Kostura asked for a follow up on the study through the Geauga Department of Water Resources for extending the water line down Chillicothe Road. The Mayor thinks this will take a couple more months to complete.

ADJOURNMENT: Being that there was no further business before Council, Dishong moved to adjourn, seconded by Porter. Roll call, ayes - all. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by Jennell Dahlhausen