

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2013 – 7:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Binder, Dishong, Koons, Kostura, Porter and Wolfe

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Solicitor Ondrey

VISITORS: Gary Dole, Maple Hill Drive

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 approve the minutes of the November 12, 2013 Council meeting, seconded by Councilman Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor reported that storm damage cleanup is complete and just under budget for the contractor. Not included in the cost was the cost of Village vehicles and service department employee time.

Mayor said the Public Utilities Committee is working on putting together a recommendation for Council for the sewer topic regarding what Council is looking for in terms of counting parcels, the petition language, etc.

Mayor still talking with the County Auditor on the water line topic. Mayor said Anita Stocker from Economic Development and Frank Gliha the County Auditor have questioned the cost associated with the potential water line extension seeming awfully low.

FISCAL OFFICER: Fiscal Officer stated she forwarded Council a letter received from the Geauga County Board regarding disaster _____. The Emergency Plan has to be updated and she wanted to make sure it wasn't missed. Mayor told Fiscal Officer to forward that information to future councilman Mike Carroll as he is a member of the Emergency Operations Plan and has experience in this area.

Fiscal Officer also called Council's attention to information the Village received from the Environmental Infrastructure Group and information regarding water and wastewater infrastructure.

As Tax Administrator, Fiscal Officer reported the Village received the November distribution which was \$215,406.04 and after refunds and overhead, the net deposit was \$203,381.25. This gives the Village a net year-to-date of \$1,548,389.66.

FISCAL AUDITOR: Fiscal Auditor distributed report to Council. He stated that balances match Fiscal Officer on all funds.

Fiscal Auditor reviewed his report and pointed out that investments increased \$500,000 as he moved those funds into an interest bearing investment. Fiscal Auditor pointed out that balances dropped in October which is mainly due to the road program expense. This is the first month

where there was a dramatic decrease in balances. He shared that ambulance billing fees should surpass budgeted revenue amount. Fiscal Auditor pointed out that income tax revenues have already surpassed the budgeted amount with two months of collections remaining.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: No report as this was his scheduled meeting off.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: No report as this was his scheduled meeting off.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: No report as this was his scheduled meeting off.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: No report as this was his scheduled meeting off.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor said he prepared a couple ordinances for the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Binder and Wolfe had no report.

Dishong informed Council there will be a final budget work session on Monday, December 2nd at 6 pm at Village Hall.

Binder said newsletter articles are due soon for the holiday newsletter. He will send out a reminder email with a deadline date.

Koons reported the lumber for the pavilion would on November 26th. He has received two bids for fireplaces – one for \$22,000 and one for \$15,000 and he has two more he is waiting on.

Koons passed around photos of single-vault restroom ideas the Parks Committee is starting to research and consider whether two restrooms are needed or just one that is unisex. Koons is going to discuss installing a port-a-pot at the park from May until October for the approximate cost of \$450.

Koons said he received an email from a resident about a lady killed by dog in Alabama and asked that the Village keep an eye on the park.

Koons stated that once the pavilion is in, the Village should come up with a plan on how to deal with the mud and drainage.

Kostura reported on the Planning Commission (PC) meeting that took place on November 14th. He referred to an email sent to Mayor and Council about what was discussed at that meeting. Jean McKesh had simple drawing renditions of what property would look like. The property is 16 acres where the back half is where he put his project which is 11 acres. McKesh would like to arrange it so it does not want to interfere with Kensington Green or the neighbors to the north. McKesh wasn't going to use front 5 acres because of zoning. PC discussed changing the zoning to give a larger buffer zone between the neighbors and the assisted living center. This would also change the way in and out of the property and the parking lots. Kostura explained that the current zoning requirement that this type of facility can't be within 300 feet of the roadway. Bryan said the PC recommendation was that the 5 acres be rezoned and it would give a lot more options as to what this would look like and how it is used. The Mayor said the way the property is currently zoned, the only way to use the buildings up front as is would require a use variance which Solicitor said hard to get. Mayor said as the PC discussed the idea and options, changing the zoning became more compelling where those buildings could be included into the overall

plan. Mayor said the village was the one with the rezoning idea as they believe it will result in a better project for all. Wolfe asked about neighbors opinions. Kostura stated the neighbor to the north was supportive of overall project and that it didn't have a sterile institutional feeling and was supportive of the concept. Mayor said it is important for Council to know that there is a little risk there in that if the Village does this, they are changing the zoning for that parcel and that could mean that things could change with this developer mid-stream, or if they don't do it and sell the property, now it is rezoned to 15 acres. However, the 300 foot setback is restrictive. Mayor said he believes changing the zoning is putting this project and any future projects there in a better position. There was brief discussion regarding the current buildings and those being incorporated into the new buildings. Solicitor said this is possible but they would area variances for the existing buildings. Solicitor said the zoning change would need to be introduced as an ordinance and it takes takes three-fourths majority to change it or deny it. Solicitor said if it got introduced at this meeting, the second reading would be at the December meeting and the public hearing would be set for January 13, 2014 and then have the third reading at the Council meeting. There is a 30-day notice requirement. Mayor said PC was not in a position to approve this zoning change at the last meeting because all they had were conceptual drawings, so there is still a process for PC to go through.

Porter said the Human Resources committee will request an Executive Session to discuss personnel compensation.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Bryan introduced an ordinance to rezone a portion of a parcel currently zoned for R-1-A residential one family to R-3, elderly assisted living and to delete section 4.06e3 of the zoning code of the Village of South Russell.

Mayor gave third reading on an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into an agreement with the Chagrin Falls Suburban Volunteer Fireman's Association, Inc. Binder made a motion to adopt, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Ordinance 2013-42.

Dishong introduced an ordinance to transfer from the Income Tax fund to the Safety Fund \$200,000, Cemetery Fund \$500 and Special Road Fund \$40,000 and declaring an emergency, seconded by Kostura. Roll call, ayes – all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Ordinance 2013-43.

BILLS LIST: Koons made a motion to ratify the bills list dated 11/15/13 #2 in the amount of \$\$6,867.19, seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Porter made a motion to approve the bills list dated 11/29/13 in the amount of \$73,573.30 seconded by Dishong. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

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

Binder stated he sent out a notice regarding a potential business meet and greet. He stated he received a couple responses that a date of January more than December was desired. He will target a January date.

Dishong informed Council he is on the facilities planning committee for the school. They are working on their 5-10 year plan. The general recommendation is to redevelop the Philomathean property giving community access and consolidate on two campuses – Gurney school and the high school. Wolfe said there is a presentation on **December** 16th at the PAC at 6:30 pm.

Wolfe informed Council that there will be a public open house on December 4th for the new dispatch center at Bedford Hospital.

At 8:24 pm, Porter made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss employee compensation, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call, ayes, all. Motion carried.

Council reconvened at 8:55 pm.

Porter made a motion to set compensation for all Village employees for 2014 to include a 2.5% increase in pay and Dave Hocesvar to receive a bonus of \$3,000, Darrell Johnson, Danielle Romanowski and Mike Rizzo receive a bonus of \$2,000 each and the remaining full-time employees receive a bonus of \$1,000 each and that these bonuses be one time and be paid prior to January 1st of 2014, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call, ayes – all. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Being that there was no further business before Council, Wolfe made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer