

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013 – 7:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Engineer Eric Haibach, Building Commissioner Hocesvar, Street Commissioner Johnson, Police Chief Rizzo, and Solicitor Ondrey

VISITORS: Bob McIntire, Manor Brook, Gregory Pike, Whitetail Dr., Cindy Nairn, Whitetail Dr., Lee Schiemann, Forest Dr., Sylvia Debick, Maple Hill, Kate Carter, Sun News, Maryellen Miller, Maple Hill, Rob Myers, Deerfield Dr. Committee; Ed Pyle, Cemetery Committee

Mayor Brett called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Fiscal Officer Romanowski read the roll. Koons moved to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2013 council meeting seconded by Binder. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor asked Ike Tripp to step forward to be presented with a resolution of appreciation from the Village for his years of service on the Planning Commission. Mayor stated Ike Tripp IV served from October, 1999 through 2011 on the Planning Commission for South Russell. He thanked Ike for his service to the Village and presented him with a proclamation.

Mayor informed visitors and Council that he forgot Jack Binder would not be present at this meeting, therefore he said he would like a full Council to make a decision on the cemetery at either the April 22, 2013 or May 7, 2013 meeting.

VISITORS: Resident Bob McIntire addressed Mayor and Council regarding the right of way near the power lines on Manor Brook. He is against the use of herbicides CEI is proposing to use in the power line area. McIntire believes the Village needs to do something to prevent the use of herbicides in the Village. Mayor responded that the Village went through this approximately 5 years ago and the Village was notified work in the corridor will be done in June. He said in discussions with the Solicitor it has not historically been easy to ban anything. Mayor stated Russell Township has not banned anything but they have asked CEI to not use the chemical. McIntire volunteered to do more research on this topic and hopes this will help stop the use of herbicides that could affect the ground water.

Sylvia Debick notified Mayor and Council a petition has been passed around Maple Hill regarding the septic/sewer issue. She said once they have the results they will forward them to Council.

Jeff Baker of Maple Hill addressed Mayor and Council regarding a letter from 1/19/11 that said Mayor and Council no longer wished to pursue the septic/sewer issue. Mayor stated the position of the Village is that if there is a large group that wants to pursue this matter, the Village will look to pursue, if not they won't.

Mary Ellen Miller of Maple Hill stated she knows of one home that failed at point of sale in 2005, 2006 and 2008. Mayor said he believes the County Board of Health makes decisions on extensions.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor reported he and Council had a work session regarding the park. He said he is asking Council to draft proposals for each opposing position for a solution for the park issue. Mayor stated he would like to be in a position to have the proposals presented on April 22, 2013 and then vote. He said he doesn't think more time will help with this decision; it just needs to be made.

Mayor reported the Regional Dispatch continues to make progress with making a deal with Bedford Hospital. He stated a meeting is coming up on Thursday to work out elements in regard to a letter of intent.

Mayor reported he attended a Chagrin Chamber event on March 20, 2013 and the following communities provided updates; Chagrin Falls, Bainbridge and South Russell. He said questions were raised about the park and Bell Road construction. Mayor reported they also discussed efforts in connecting parks or trails.

Mayor reported the cooperative fuel purchase scenario appears to be going forward and an agreement is being developed. He said Chagrin Falls Schools have ordered a fuel card reader already. Mayor reported that he and the Street Commissioner discussed approaching Chagrin Falls Schools about buying salt from our contractor and adding it to the Village bid and finding a mechanism to invoice the school for their share so the district could possibly save money.

Mayor reported the annual EPA Storm Water report has been filed and five different Stormwater Management sessions for residents have been scheduled.

Mayor reported the Village is looking for a local resource to donate time to work on the front of the Police Department to keep costs down and is seeking a good plan going forward.

Mayor reported the Village received written notification that we have been awarded the federal grant for Bell Road with the potential value of approximately \$1.5 million to \$2 million dollars to the Village.

FISCAL OFFICER: Fiscal Officer reported she was at the State Auditor's Conference the previous week so she will distribute her monthly report at the next meeting. She reported the conference covered many changes such as healthcare reform, PERS changes, and notifying contractors of their rights. Fiscal Officer reported a new type of audit is now available and the Village may qualify for this at less expense for the Village. Mayor responded that Andy Hitchcock will be meeting with him and the Fiscal Officer to discuss the Human Resources topic this Wednesday.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer reported he has been looking at and evaluating the roads in the Village and discussed some items with the Street Commissioner to take a look at for work that needs to be done. He said he has put together a summary of the areas he believes are the worst, and they are Champion, Snyder, Silver Springs, Leevew and Lakeview Lanes, and Belmeadow along with costs and sent them out to the Streets Committee. Engineer reported with the work going on Bell Road maybe we should concentrate on the east end of the Village.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Building Commissioner reported he is getting contractor quotes for the rental house. He stated the Service Department did some demolition work which saved the Village money.

Building Commissioner reported that he and Fiscal Officer met with Comp Management on March 26, 2013 to discuss Worker's Comp 2014 group ratings and a safety program to help reduce Village costs.

Building Commissioner reported the Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday evening with Bell Station on the agenda. They had received a variance and want to put an extension on the building for more room.

Mayor informed the Building Commissioner a recommendation to change the zoning for the cemetery by the Solicitor is also on the agenda for Thursday's Planning Commission meeting.

Building Commissioner reported there is a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for April 17, 2013 regarding a large piece of property on Mapleridge Road. He stated they would like a variance for a large detached structure.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rizzo reported on April 5, 2013 sealed bids for the new police cruiser were opened and Statewide Ford was the lowest bid. Liberty Ford was the next lowest bid. He requested approval to proceed with the lowest bid to purchase a new vehicle. Wolfe made a motion to allow Chief to purchase a new 2013 Ford SUV Interceptor police vehicle with the lowest bid from Statewide Ford, and auction the older cruiser on govdeals.com seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Chief reported a discussion was had with the Safety Committee regarding weapons the Village seized over the past twenty years that were taken to Atwell's. He stated Atwell's gave a trade-in credit of \$1,200 dollars for the seized weapons. Chief reported Atwell's also agreed they will take a trade-in for ammunition for \$3,900 so he is able to purchase 16 new Glock weapons for \$1,280 from the firearms budget. He stated this is a more standard weapon, at a cost of the equivalent of 3 new weapons. He stated that Atwell's is also purchasing the ammunition at a higher cost than the Village paid for it.

Chief reported he is able to use the iPad to remote access his office computer to review reports while not at the station for South Russell and Geauga County happenings. Mayor stated the updated technology is helping Village employees to be more efficient in performing their duties.

Chief reported the updated vacation watch program gets resident information before leaving, an officer then visits the home every other day to check and an article will be in the newsletter to residents. He stated when the homeowner returns the police department sends an email summary of dates and times the police visited the home. Chief said residents have responded favorably to this proactive approach.

Chief reported the new wraps are on the police cars and all three are finished. He said he felt the visibility needed improvement and a cleaner, more professional look with additional reflective material helps the cars stand out more.

Koons offered kudos to the Police Chief and Street Commissioner for suggesting using govdeals.com to increase the sale of the police cruiser for \$1,200 more than received by sealed bids.

Wolfe inquired about the Fish with a Cop and Chief said it is scheduled for June 22, 2013 at Bellwood Lake from 9:00 A.M. to 1 P.M. Chief reported the state will not be providing grant funding for the 3rd grade seatbelt program. He stated the Village will still be doing the program and funding should return next year.

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Street Commissioner reported he turned in a month end report and street sweeping began today. He said the department has been working on plow damage and clean-up.

Street Commissioner reported the Street Committee will be proposing a resolution for a salt contract before the May 1, 2013 deadline.

Street Commissioner reported he and Chief Rizzo met with a resident landscaper at the Police Department to discuss landscaping ideas this morning.

Koons requested a discussion with the Street Commissioner regarding changing mowing at the park before mowing begins May 5, 2013.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Wolfe and Porter had no report.

Dishong reported the newsletter was sent to Evans Printing yesterday and should print by Thursday. He thanked everyone for submitting articles.

Koons reported the bench from the Rose family will probably dedicate it at a ceremony on April 21 or April 28, 2013. He reported the sign for the park will be moved approximately 15 feet east on East Washington Street between the two telephone poles, and the brush will need cut out along with mowing along there.

Koons reported they had a meeting with the Jaycees today to discuss the pavilion. He said they are still looking at other pavilions, including a pavilion at Gully Brook Park in Willoughby Hills.

Koons reported the Parks Committee thinks at the next meeting on May 1, 2013 they are considering an open meeting to discuss comments and input for the dog issues. He said on June 5, 2013 they think they will contact and reach out to neighbors of the park.

Koons reported planning for the Fall Festival is ongoing and includes the following; celebrating the Village's 90th birthday, the historical marker, the flag pole at the park and an Eagle Scout trail to dedicate.

Kostura reported the Planning Commission meets Thursday April 11, 2013. He stated they have the cemetery issue and the Bell Road Station on the agenda for discussion.

Mayor added a resident has offered to donate business cards for the Police Station estimated at approximately \$500.00. Wolfe made a motion to accept a donation for the Police Department to

purchase business cards worth approximately \$500, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Dishong introduced a motion to authorize CT Consultants to start the 2013 road program, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried

Mayor reported he has asked First Energy for the timing of applications, the application methodology and a list of herbicides they plan to use.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Dishong introduced an ordinance to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation cooperative purchasing program for the purposes of purchasing rock salt for the 2013-2014 winter season. Dishong moved to waive further readings and declare an emergency, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call, ayes- all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2013-10.**

Dishong introduced an ordinance to transfer \$214,000 from the income tax fund as follows; \$125,000 to the safety fund, \$75,000 to the operating fund and \$14,000 to the park and recreation fund. Dishong moved to waive further readings and declare an emergency, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Dishong moved to adopt, seconded by Wolfe. Roll call, ayes- all. Motion carried. **Ordinance 2013-11.**

BILLS LIST: Dishong made a motion to ratify the bills list dated 3/29/13 in the amount of \$23,292.56, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

At approximately 8:50 pm Dishong made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel compensation and discipline, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Being that there was no further business before Council, at 9:30 p.m., Dishong made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kostura. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer