

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019 – 7:00 A.M.
MAYOR WILLIAM G. KOONS PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Canton, Carroll, Galicki, Nairn, Porter and Schloss

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Solicitor Matheney

At 7:00 a.m., Mayor Koons called the Special Council meeting to order. Fiscal Officer read the roll.

Carroll introduced an ordinance amending Appendix D, Job Descriptions of the Village of South Russell Employee Handbook and declaring an emergency. Carroll made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Nairn. Roll call – ayes all. Motion carried. Carroll made a motion to adopt, seconded by Nairn. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2019-72.**

Regarding the Chagrin River Watershed Partners (CRWP) agreement, Carroll asked the Solicitor for clarification as to whether Nairn and Canton could vote. She reviewed an advisory opinion from the Ohio Ethics Commission, and she thought there was not an issue because it was not exactly a direct benefit or detriment to their personal property. It involves common area and although there are some conflicting opinions, the general rule is that if it would universally apply to the South Russell Village residents and the fact that it is for stormwater and not necessarily for the Manor Brook community or for the Council members' property. The Solicitor advised that it was permissible for Nairn and Canton to vote.

Porter introduced an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement on behalf of the Village of South Russell with Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. for the administration of the Section 319(h) grant and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to the Village of South Russell for the Manor Brook Headwaters Stream Restoration Project. Porter waived further readings and declared an emergency, seconded by Canton. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. The Solicitor referenced a conversation with Kim Brewster, CRWP pertaining to the use of either federal funds, local match, or a 60/40 split to pay the \$15,000. Brewster's recommendation was to do the local match. The Solicitor indicated that it was necessary for the Village to provide this information to OEPA because they must approve it. She thought they were waiting to hear from the Village whether it would be \$15,000 fully federal funds, fully local match, or a split. Porter asked what the local match was. The Solicitor explained that it meant the Village's portion. The Fiscal Officer further explained that the Village would still pay the same amount. If the Village chose to do this portion out of its match, then there would be less reimbursement paperwork. In the end, the dollar amounts are the same, this would just make it so there is less reimbursements and less paperwork up front. The Mayor asked what was easiest. The Fiscal Officer stated that with the other grants the Village just paid it up front. The Solicitor said Brewster recommended that it come from the Village. In other words, there would be no paperwork and administration as far as getting the reimbursement for this portion. Carroll clarified then that the Village would be leaving \$15,000 on the table. The Solicitor stated, no, that it is part of the total project cost. It is just a question as to whether the Village requests reimbursement from OEPA for this or the Village considers it a part of its portion, which she thought was approximately \$276,000. The Mayor stated that the Village would eventually pay \$184,000 on the grant, so the Village would be taking \$15,000 out of the \$184,000 by paying it now. The Mayor asked

if Council needed to do anything for the ordinance. The Solicitor said she made a change to the contract, not to the ordinance. The Mayor acknowledged seeing this. The Solicitor stated she wanted to get back to the OEPA to let them know. Porter made a motion to adopt, seconded by Carroll. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2019-73**

At 7:05 a.m. Carroll made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the investigation of a public official, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, Carroll, Canton, Nairn, Porter, Schloss. Galicki recused himself. Motion carried.

Porter stated Council was out of Executive Session at 7:40. Regarding the Building Department, Schloss reported that he spoke with Nancy Grattino, the Building Department Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk, on December 12, 2019, to congratulate her on taking the position of Zoning Inspector. She relayed to Schloss that she did not know if she would take the position or not. Porter stated this was duly noted and Council would just see what happens. Schloss further relayed that Grattino said that she did not know if she could do the three jobs with the same amount of money. Nairn felt this was strong arming, and Schloss stated it was the end of his conversation with Grattino. Porter said Council would see what happens.

ADJOURNMENT: Being that there was no further business before Council, Carroll made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, Schloss, Canton, Porter, Carroll, Nairn. Motion carried.



William G. Koons, Mayor



Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by Leslie Galicki