

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SMITHVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL
December 15, 2020

The Council of the Village of Smithville met in regular session on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:00 pm in a live internet session. Mayor Tom Poulson called the meeting to order. Members present at roll call were Larry Allen, Matt Haas, John Heitger, Tricia Mullins, Joseph Reed, and Scott Thorn. Fiscal Officer Pam Keener, Solicitor Jason Groh, and Clerk of Council Beverly Hatten were also present.

Allen motioned to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 regular meeting. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the minutes for December 1, 2020.

Mayor advised the Police Chief had nothing to report this evening.

Mayor reviewed the reports sent out to Council this week: Fund Balance for 2021, Estimated Receipts for 2021 and Estimated Expenses for 2021 for the 2021 budget. Thorn inquired what is the possibility of additional revenue for COVID19. Keener advised it is unknown at this time if there will be additional funds available. Heitger motioned to approve the budget for 2021. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously motioned to approve the budget for 2021.

Mayor advised a check from the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation has been received.

The Independent Contractor/Consulting Agreement with Jon Parker was reviewed. His services as Zoning Administrator are valued and The Village desires to renew the agreement with Parker in the capacity of an independent contractor for Zoning Administrator with compensation at the rate of \$20.00 per hour effective January 1, 2021. Mullins motioned to approve a contract renewal with Jon Parker with a rate increase to \$20.00. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the contract renewal.

Ordinance 2020-29 Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. Mullins motioned to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-29. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-29.

Ordinance 2020-29 Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. Allen motioned to approve Ordinance 2020-29. Haas seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2020-29.

Resolution 2020-30 Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer, decrease and/or increase appropriations and amend the certificate of estimated resources as needed. Allen motioned to suspend the rules for Resolution 2020-30. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to suspend the rules for Resolution 2020-30.

Resolution 2020-30 Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer, decrease and/or increase appropriations and amend the certificate of estimated resources as needed. Allen motioned to approve Resolution 2020-30. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved Resolution 2020-30.

Allen nominated Mullins for Council President for 2021. Heitger seconded the nomination. Haas yes, Heitger yes, Mullins abstain, Reed yes, Thorn yes, Allen yes.

Liaison Reports:

Allen reported that the fire department has been quiet lately, they have had about 100 fewer calls this year, people are afraid to go to the hospital.

Haas advised there was a zoom call December 10 with Jennifer Brown of CT Consultants to discuss potential grant funding for future park capital projects. A general discussion was held on grant opportunities and ideas for capital improvements for the next five years were presented by Haas. Jennifer advised the best opportunity would be through ODNR for grant money. She advised ODNR likes to see community involvement and input. She suggested a survey be put out to the community and will work on a template of questions which have been used by other villages. We will need to determine how to get the survey out to the public, either electronically or through the mail. From there a revised master plan would be created for the park to be submitted with the grant application. There is money available, we just need a good plan and process toward securing funds. There are funds available from local sources as well as government agencies. Keener inquired if they had looked to the Wayne County Community Foundation. Haas advised they will be looking there.

Mayor advised the BPA met last evening. They are continuing to work on the finalization of the Water Source Protection Plan which is an EPA mandated document. There was further discussion on the I&I study regarding the sanitary sewer system and engaging CT Consultants in an overview of the entire sanitary sewer system. A request has been made to CT Consultants to put everything together, after months of emails, we are asking for clarity of what would be covered and the cost. Still moving forward in 2021 and looking for how we are going to fund the I&I project.

BPA is beginning discussions on the rates for water and sewer. Last increase for water was in 2017. The last increase for sewer was 2014. With projects moving forward and improvements being made on the capital side they have asked for cost projections and estimated revenue after the first of the year. Becky and Pam have been asked to assemble estimated expenses for operating and capital and estimate revenue for each the water and sewer. They will re-evaluate the portion of the funds which go to capital improvements versus operating expenses. They will do a survey of communities that are similar in size as us as to their rates. BPA will review the information and make a recommendation to present to Council for the final decision.

Water tower progress, they are moving forward on the water main itself. They have made good progress on the site. The next phase is foundational work beginning with some steel structural support.

Green Township Trustees have submitted a \$2,500 donation for the water tower, we received it today.

Haas inquired if there was a date when the water tower would be finished? Mayor advised late summer 2021. Once the new tower is online and running the old tower will be demolished. The pumps are being rebuilt at the well field. ProTech has been in working on the communication system between the well field and the tower.

Allen motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$19,614.81. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to pay the bills.

An additional meeting has been scheduled for December 29, 2020. It will be a short meeting, but we will need a quorum to pay bills and finish business for the year.


Allen motioned to adjourn the business meeting. Haas seconded the motion. Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Scheduled meetings:

Council Meeting December 29, 2020 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday

Minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting were approved on December 29, 2020.


Clerk


Mayor