

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SMITHVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL
JUNE 2, 2020

The Council of the Village of Smithville met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 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, Robert Kerr, Tricia Mullins, and Scott Thorn. Solicitor Jason Groh, Police Chief Funk and Clerk of Council Beverly Hatten were also present.

Mullins motioned to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

Police Chief Funk presented the monthly report. Chief Funk requested to go into executive session.

Thorn motioned for Council Members to enter into executive session. Haas seconded the motion. Council unanimously agreed to enter into executive session.

Mullins motioned for Council Members to exit executive session. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously agreed to exit executive session.

Mullins motioned to accept the resignation of Police Officer Cole Wilson as of June 9, 2020. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously agreed to accept the resignation of Cole Wilson.

Mullins motioned to promote Police Officer Darian Short from part-time officer to full time officer as of June 7, 2020. Haas seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the promotion of Darian Short to full time police officer.

Mullins motioned to promote Police Officer Daniel Yarnell from part-time officer to full time officer as of June 7, 2020. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the promotion of Daniel Yarnell to full time police officer.

Large item trash pick-up has been scheduled for Monday, June 22, 2020. It is posted on the website, a notice was placed on the water bill and it is on the sign in the Village Hall yard.

Thorn inquired where the proceedings are in regards to the house on North Summit which has been determined to be a nuisance. Mayor advised Jon Parker, Zoning Administrator sent a certified letter which was returned, not signed for or accepted. It was determined to delay further action until Council passed the Nuisance Ordinance. The attempt to serve papers was delayed due to the coronavirus situation. Mayor's Court has not been reopened.

Chief Funk advised officers are doing more enforcement and citing into Wayne County Municipal Court as the Smithville Mayor's Court has not reopened. Once Mayor's Court is reopened the process with the North Summit Street property will move forward.

Resolution 2020-11 Authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer, decrease and/or increase appropriations and amend the certificate of estimated resources as needed and declaring an emergency. Allen motioned to suspend the rules for Resolution 2020-11. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to suspend the rules for Resolution 2020-11

Resolution 2020-11 Authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer, decrease and/or increase appropriations and amend the certificate of estimated resources as needed and declaring an emergency. Mullins motioned to approve Resolution 2020-11. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved Resolution 2020-11.

Mayor reviewed the monthly Income Tax report, Statement of Cash Position, Revenue and Expense Reports with Council. The May Financial Report will be available at the next Council Meeting.

Heitger advised property owners have been in contact with him regarding a property which has not been mowed. The Village has an Ordinance 93.40 regarding cutting weeds and vegetation. The ordinance states properties must be mowed twice a year. The residents were upset and concerned about this not being done as they take pride in caring for their own yards.

Mayor advised Council to consider amending the ordinance or making a new ordinance to have it in place for mowing more often. He suggested checking with other communities to see what their ordinances state. The current ordinance states property is required to be mowed twice a year, once between June 1 and July 1 and one between August 1 and September 1. Heitger has suggested this is not frequent enough. The Village can notify the owner to comply and mow or the Village will mow the property and charge them. In speaking to Mike Turner there are other lots in Smithville that would also need addressed.

Heitger advised he is concerned about residential properties, not the large open nonresidential properties.

Mayor advised there are several properties on the following streets which are of concern: Center Street, behind the Methodist Church, Northeast Street, North Summit Street. Mayor request Council draft paperwork.

Solicitor Jason Groh advised Orrville's Ordinance states the weeds/grass can't be over 10". They notify the owner and if not done within five days the city mows the property and assesses the cost to the property owner.

Heitger will work on a draft proposal.

Liaison Reports

Thorn advised he spoke to Mike Turner, they rented a rough-cut mower attachment today and he is interested in purchasing one, but at this time it makes more financial sense to rent one on an as needed basis. If a good used one becomes available at a good price, he would like to pursue that at a later date.

Allen advised the fire meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 4pm at Station 2.

Kerr advised the Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial was well attended and he thanked Council Members and Mayor for attending. The ceremony was well done.

Haas advised signs have been posted at the park about social distancing and washing hands. Youth baseball has started using the fields. There are two openings on the Park Board Committee and he has spoken to a couple people, will have names at the next council meeting. Haas in reviewing the rental agreement, inquired if it should include the references to COVID-19 or should it be a separate document. Solicitor Groh advised it could be a statement: "user needs to follow all federal, state, and local laws." That would incorporate any COVID-19 guidelines or anything which would arise in the future. If there are specifics there can be an addendum for them to sign as well.

Mayor inquired about the playground usage since the baseball field will be in use. Solicitor advised the playground equipment is still closed. Don't clean it, advise park attendees it is not allowed to be used. Basketball may be allowed, will check on it.

Heitger advised Buckeye Sweeping was in to clean the streets May 22. The traffic light needed two bulbs replaced. The seals in the traffic signal lights are bad and the signals need replaced. It will be approximately \$10,000 for them to be replaced. Mayor advised there are funds available in the Highway Fund which may be used. When Brian Shook Electric submits his bill for the light bulb replacement, he was asked to submit a quote for the light signal replacement. Heitger advised the light signals should be raised to the current regulation height when replaced.

Heitger advised there will need to be a project regarding the storm sewers on Parkview, Parkview Circle and Fairlawn. Some of these lines are very old and need to be adjusted. Mullins advised she has had a resident on Parkview complain to her. There have been several complaints. Mullins advised Turner and Baker came out and took a look. It is definitely old. Years ago, the storm sewer was placed on the high side of the street and the low side is flooding. Mayor advised the older lines did not have regulation and the contractors put in what they wanted. Mayor suggests Council begin to develop an overall plan to address the issues and look for funding sources such as OPWC.

Mayor advised the BPA is looking at sanitary sewer work and developing a plan for annual replacement as with the water main.

Mullins advised the insurance company sent an email to the Village in regards to an infectious disease outbreak response plan. There were suggestions to help the Village create a plan to work with the CDC and health department to make sure the Village is in compliance with the State of Ohio when we open the office. Mullins reviewed the suggestions with the Mayor and she is writing a plan and will send to Groh to check for compliance and then will send to Council Members for review. Mayor advised this is to limit Village liability.

Mayor advised the water tower is on hold as the State of Ohio has not passed the capital budget. Mayor has communicated with state representatives and they indicated it will be passed soon.

Mayor advised Turner brought to his attention that the basic average water usage per day has been about 60,000 gallons. Recently it is not unusual for the usage to go over 100,000 gallons per day. We attribute that to more people being home with the COVID-19, not working and off school.

Yesterday there was an electric outage. The generator was needed for the traffic signal to continue to function. The other concerns were the sewer plant generator and the water treatment plant. The water treatment plant, everything turned on as it was supposed to do. The way the alarm at the water tower is working we were not certain an alarm would be received if the water level dropped. The electric was on but there were issues. Protech was contacted and helped resolve the issues. We will follow up with Protech about the timing for the system upgrades so there is a reliable system in place.

Mayor advised Becky Dannemiller will be doing some research into letting residents make payments online. Make it more accessible to residents and give them more options for payments. More often people are requesting online access.

Allen motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$2,839.90. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to pay the bills.

Allen motioned to adjourn the business meeting. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Allen inquired about the next meeting, in person at Village Hall or online? Solicitor Groh advised the Friday the 10-person gathering limit has been extended to the end of the month.

Mayor advised the BPA will be meeting at the Village Hall as they are a 3-person board and with Becky Dannemiller and the Mayor, there will be 5 at the meeting.

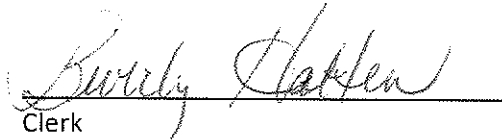
Scheduled meetings:

BPA Meeting/Work Session June 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm, Monday, Village Hall

Council Meeting June 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, Internet session

Council Meeting July 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday

Minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting were approved on June 16, 2020.


Clerk


Mayor