

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SMITHVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL
May 18, 2021

The Council of the Village of Smithville met in regular session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 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. Solicitor Jason Groh, Police Chief Jen Barnett, and Clerk of Council Beverly Hatten were also present.

Heitger motioned to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2021 regular meeting. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the minutes for May 4, 2021.

Chief Barnett reviewed the April 2021 Police Report with Council. A resignation from Part-time Officer Rico Ontiveros was received. Mullins motioned to accept the resignation of Rico Ontiveros and the Village will hold his commission for six (6) months, ending November 1, 2021. Allen seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved to accept the resignation of Rico Ontiveros and hold his commission until November 1, 2021.

Online Payments for utilities and taxes are now available online. Residents are beginning to sign up and we are receiving payments. A number of the residents are going paperless. Everyone needs to get the word out that this is available.

Dollar General store manager wrote a letter requesting The Village contact the company regarding the upkeep of the grounds around the store. Mayor advised the request will be turned over to Zoning Administrator Jon Parker.

Thorn inquired where the process was for contacting Centerra regarding the property used for recycling. Mayor advised there needs to be a right of way for Centerra. They have stated they already have it and it is recorded. Groh advised he has been unable to find the recorded right of way online and will need to go into the Wayne County office and check.

The BPA has approved the fee schedule change to increase the returned check fee for the Village to \$15 to match the ACH reject fee in InvoiceCloud. Haas motioned to approve the fee schedule change to include the increase for the returned check fee. Heitger seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the fee schedule change.

Mayor reviewed the financial reports with Council. Mullins motioned to approve the April 2021 Financial Reports. Thorn seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the April 2021 Financial Reports.

The police department provides a School Resource Officer to Green Local Schools and Liberty Prep. The new contract for Green Local beginning school year 2021-2022 is for three (3) years and includes an increase from last year and for each year going forward. It is not known at this time if Liberty Prep will be using the SRO program for the coming school year. Thorn motioned to approve the SRO contract with the Smithville Police Department and Green Local Schools. Reed seconded the motion. Council unanimously motioned to approve the contract.

Chief Barnett shared information on the anticipated acquisition of a K9 officer for the Smithville Police Department. She feels this will be a great benefit to the department and the community. Chief Barnett

went to Excel K-9 Services in Hiram, Ohio. She saw several dogs. The selected dog is a female Belgium Malinois trained in narcotics detection with a passive alert, tracking and obedience. The K9 was added to the budget for 2022. Haas inquired when we would receive the dog. Chief Barnett advised not until June or July 2022 at the earliest. Thorn inquired about fitting the vehicle for the K9. Chief Barnett advised Sgt Wertz is working on a proposal for a criminal justice services grant. The grant covers the dog and equipment and would be a reimbursement. Thorn inquired if insurance will need to be changed. Chief advised, yes, it is being reviewed. Heitger inquired what the annual cost of the K9 would be. Chief advised food and medical just like with other dogs and she will need to be spayed. The annual cost currently for other K9's in the area is about \$500.

Mayor advised with the state requirements changing regarding the coronavirus we may be able to have Council Meetings in person. We hope to be able to meet in person at Village Hall on June 15. Council requested Groh to continue to explore the mandates and send out an "all clear" message if meeting in person is permissible. At this time, we are planning on opening Village Hall to the public June 3, 2021.

The Village Hall cleaning person, Lori Evans, has turned in her notice. She will be retiring and her final day is May 22, 2021. She has been with the Village of Smithville for 16 years. Thorn requested a letter of gratitude for her years of service be written. Mullins advised she will make sure a card is signed. We are getting quotes from cleaning companies to take over the duties. Thorn motioned to accept the resignation of Lori Evans with a note of gratitude. Mullins seconded the motion. Council unanimously accepted the resignation of Lori Evans.

Allen advised the fire department had a very busy month, but nothing unusual.

Reed advised the parade planning is going forward. The parade will step off at 8:15 am and go to the Veterans Memorial for the ceremony.

Haas advised the survey is on the website and we have nearly 80 completed at this time. Mayor encourages Council members to fill out the survey and to tell everyone to do the survey. It is not just for Smithville residents, but for anyone in the area that uses the park.

Heitger advised the durapatcher is being used. Jane, David and High Streets have been patched. Buchwalters will be doing the flower pots downtown in the next week or so. The sidewalk project on Fairlawn is going forward. Heitger advised there was a rumor of the Village building an alley between David and Fairlawn, this is not going to happen.

Mayor advised the BPA has drafted a response letter to the EPA regarding the violations. The electrical panel is on the agenda for the contractor. The water tower is making great progress with very few issues. The BPA is working on an amnesty program to assist with the I&I problem.

Allen motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$10,291.36. 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 7:45 pm.

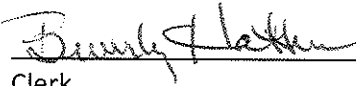
Scheduled meetings:


Council Meeting June 1, 2021 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday

BPA Meeting May 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm, Monday

Council Meeting June 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm, Tuesday

Minutes of the May 18, 2021 meeting were approved on June 1, 2021.


Clerk


Mayor