

Regular Council Meeting

February 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Headley.

Mayor Headley gave the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Present were: Council members Mick Pocratsky, Ron Jones, Mark Haver, Mike Barth Ron Beverly and Bruce Hart; Solicitor Troy Essex; Administrator Kent Miller and Clerk-Treasurer Diane Collins.

Haver moved to approve the February 2, 2015 minutes. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Beverly moved to approve the bills. Haver seconded. All voted yes.

Planning Commission: Minutes of a February 12, 2015 public hearing were in the council packets.

Indigent Burial Committee: Minutes of the February 9 committee meeting were in council packets. Local undertaker Karen Smith attended the meeting to join in the discussion. \$1500 is her bottom price for cremation. Jones met with Smith at a later date and made a detailed list of the steps taken in the process to get an indigent cremated. He read them aloud at the meeting. At least a couple of the committee members felt the \$1500 requested by Smith is fair. Essex was asked to bring a resolution to the next council meeting.

Personnel Committee: Pocratsky reported the committee had been asked to establish some ground rules retiring and rehiring an employee. Highlights of their decision were: first council needs to establish if it is in their best interest to rehire the employee; there will not be a probationary period; Sick leave and vacation will be paid out and the employee will start at the beginning level with sick leave and vacation balances; it will not be required but we may desire to advertise the opening and do interviews. Essex will bring legislation.

Along those lines Essex stated he was asked what the definition of retirement was within the Village. Our current Personnel Manual references the number of years an employees must work (ten) and refers to the definitions of OPERS and OP&F in order for an employee to qualify for "retirement".

Administrator's Report: Miller reported the following:

Miller completed paperwork to take part in BWC's Transitional Work Program and it was accepted. We will get a 10% rebate on our premiums if we have a lost-time claim and all the paperwork and guidelines are followed on the incident. He is also in the midst of getting our new Drug Free Workplace program set up since this application was also recently accepted. The on-line training was completed and he is in the process of getting all the employees and volunteers trained. By doing this we get a 4% rebate on our premium

Miller started the paperwork for a BWC Safety Grant to buy radio read meters. It is a 3:1 match program with a cap of \$40,000 in grant money.

Miller is planning to go to Columbus March 31-April 2 to attend both the Safety Congress and Local Govt Official's Conference. The reason for going to the Safety Congress is to sit in a few sessions on one day to get our required BWC yearly training in, and then will stay for the two day conference.

The County plans to chip and seal Meuse Argonne this year. He has not gotten a date from ODOT for when they will be doing SR 18/49/2 (from Catholic Church area to the school area, and North Main from Meuse Argonne to High St.), but it's supposed to be finished no later than mid September.

Plans are to meet with the engineer this week to try and finalize plans for the Hickory Creek sewer issue. Miller hopes it can go to bid in March.

Design work will be starting shortly on the Ogen St. water line. Weather has held up getting their surveyor in to lay things out. This is our CDBG project for 2015 and involves replacing the water main from Oak to Allen St.

EMH&T is waiting for weather to break so they can begin the aerial/topographic work. If the weather cooperates, they may be starting this work either this week or next. The aerial work is the first step in their schedule to develop plans for the Phase 1 projects.

Miller has received a few negative comments about trash pick-up. The main complaint was that we don't pick up more things every week. He asked council if they want to keep General Pickup as it's been or eliminate it.

Miller reminded council of Ordinance 921.03 (b), (d) and (e) which deals with removing clean water sources from the sewers. This debate has been going on for three or four years with no decision being reached on whether we are going to enforce or not. He suggested the water/sewer committee discuss this and make a decision.

Miller is trying to finalize an oil/grease ordinance to include in the sewer portion of our book. When he gets this done he will provide copies to everyone for review and discussion.

The Mediacom representative he needs to speak to about the contract renewal is out of the office.

Miller is losing David Miller from the street department next week and plans to advertise, get the choices narrowed down and give the names to the personnel committee for consideration.

Miscellaneous: Essex updated council on the Industrial Drive extension. He stated by the end of this week the Defiance County Engineer Warren Schlatter will have the survey and legal description done in which case we just need to meet with the Guilford family and verify that it meets their approval. If so, we can get the approval of the Planning Commission in Defiance and get the Deed, completing the sale so it is in the Village's name. Essex said he has already drafted a resolution authorizing the annexation of the land into the Village and he already has the Petition for the Annexation done. He just needs to add the legal description. Assuming we can get the survey done at the end of the week and sale and split portion approved he is thinking we are on time for having everything in the Village's name when the weather breaks. Based on the Guilford's wishes a 15' strip of land or approximately a quarter acre of additional land will be purchased to make the ditch run straight and square things off.

Police/Fire/EMS Reports: Police Chief Ballinger would like to promote Zacharias Miller from Patrolman II to a Patrolman I. Mayor Headley recommended Zacharias Miller be promoted to a Patrolman I position. Barth moved to approve Mayor Headley's recommendation. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: EMS billing and Utility billing reports for 2014 were given to council for review.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Headley sent around a get well card to sign for Patrolman Steve Talbott who has been ill. Thanked village employees for the job they do taking care of our community; he attended the Appreciation Dinner for the EMT's and Fire Dept. He enjoyed seeing the retirees. He stated it was well done and rewarding to see. Mayor Headley went to Four County Vocational School to present a proclamation for the month of February "Technical Education Month". He took a tour with two Hicksville students, Ashley Brown and Harley Price. He commended Four County on the great job they do.

Mike Barth wanted to mention the Defiance County Soil & Water is having a Rain Garden/Rain Barrel work shop at Johnson Memorial Library on March 3. It goes along with helping our storm water situation, gutters and sump pumps. The Tribune will also write an article.

Beverly brought up the fact that nothing has been addressed about downspouts. Miller had put the ordinance in the council packets to encourage the committee to take some sort of action. Mayor Headley stated he was going to make sure the committee meets about the highlighted parts of Miller's report.

Beverly moved to adjourn @ 6:33 p.m. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer