

Minutes of Regular Council and Zoning Hearing

March 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Haver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present. Present were: Mayor, Larry Haver; Council members, Ron Jones, Ed Foster, Ron Beverly, Mick Pocratsky, Amy Haver and Tom Haase; Solicitor, Troy Essex; Administrator, Kent Miller; and Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins.

Jones moved to approve the March 5 minutes. Haase seconded. Beverly abstained. Foster, Haase, Jones, Haver & Pocratsky voted yes.

Haase moved to approve the bills. Jones seconded. Beverly voted no. Haver, Foster, Haase, Pocratsky & Foster voted yes.

Local Resident, Bill Zimmerman, was present to ask council how the golf cart ordinance is coming along. With Relay For Life coming up he will want to be able to transport people legally. Solicitor Essex explained similar formats. Foster asked Essex to bring some legislation to the next meeting so the ordinance committee can review it.

Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals: A request was made to waive the fees for two re-zoning requests needed by the school. Beverly moved to approve. Haase seconded. All voted yes.

Police/Fire/EMS Committee: Foster passed out proposed Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service revised By-Laws for council's consideration. Council will have a chance to review the information for the next council meeting.

It was suggested the Ordinance Committee review the ordinances for necessary changes that effect the fire department and Emergency Medical Service.

Foster presented three new training agreements for use with EMT training. Pocratsky moved to approve. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

Foster reported the new three year fire contracts are being worked on.

Cable TV Committee: Foster got in contact with Mediacom and explained that Mediacom is not going to move our cable channel higher in the line up as previously explained. The new station Foster thought they were planning to add is not a Toledo station. Mediacom has plans to call all basic cable users and do a survey. Beverly asked if Foster ever found another cable company willing to come to Hicksville. The answer was no. The next cable meeting is set for April 14th. Collins passed out a letter from Mediacom informing council of rate increases.

Finance Committee: Foster reminded the committees to get their minutes to Collins. He announced the State Auditors will be coming in April.

Administrator's Report: Miller reported: General pick up has been set for the week of April 10.

Miller is waiting word on whether a sludge press would be eligible for our DEFA loan. Drying beds rehab is around \$155,000. The sludge press will be around \$120,000-155,000 depending on model, piping, and other work to do. Our sewer employees feel they could install the sludge press themselves. That still leaves getting a tracked skid steer if we go with drying beds rehab, which is around \$54,000. There will be long term costs to both options. Beverly would like a Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee meeting to consider hidden costs with a press. We are not taking septage at this time. Miller was thinking in a price range of 5 – 7 cents per gallon. Mayor Haver said we need to be ready for septage in 60 days as the County Commissioners have started their readings pertaining to land application.

Jones pointed out the committee needs to look at the rate study also.

Beverly explained to council that the sewer employees took it upon themselves to reverse a mud valve that runs the gate at the WWTP. It now pulls from the bottom instead of the top. Some concrete will need poured on top. Beverly noted that now they can shut the plant down. Miller is concerned about future warranty issues.

Miscellaneous: Essex explained that two farm lease bids were received. The highest bid was \$145 per acre from Dan Michaels. A three year lease is being written up by Essex.

Resolution 2007-02 authorizing the Administrator to enter into a lease for real property was read by caption only for the first reading. Pocratsky moved to suspend the rules. Beverly seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2007-02 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Jones moved to approve. Foster seconded. All voted yes.

Resolution 2007-03 authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Housing Revolving Loan Fund Administration Agreement was read by caption only for the first reading. Foster moved to suspend the rules. Pocratsky seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2007-03 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Haase moved to approve. Pocratsky seconded. All voted yes.

Mayor Haver called the Re-zoning hearing to order. No one was present for the hearing. The Hicksville exempted Village Schools are asking to re-zone two lots missed previously. This involves PT Lot #97 of the Auditor's Plat from R-2 (residential) to A-100 (Agricultural or Public Use). Essex will bring legislation to the next meeting.

Haase moved to approve Collins signing BORMA amendment #6 adding council members as eligible to enroll in health insurance. It was noted that council will pay the full premium themselves. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Essex informed council the Mayor was sent two change orders for the fire hall. The first change order is a reduction in the contact price by \$13,145.26 due to a change in the height of the floor. The second one is for \$281.85 for new cost on tower work. No one seems clear what the second one is all about so it will not be approved until further investigation. Haver said the building is ordered. Mayor Haver had a contractor's pay application in hand. The charge is for materials stored to date and a bond. Council was not in favor of paying it until we see proof the materials are purchased.

Foster reminded Essex the committee recommended increasing the EMS chief's pay retroactive to the first of the year.

Essex said the First Church of Christ agreement is still getting recorded.

Clerk's Report: Collins asked council to approve allowing the utility clerk to be a type of clearing house to keep a calendar of all community events so if an organization is looking for a date to hold an event they can check with the utility clerk to see if anything else is going on for that date. Council was agreeable. Pocratsky asked Collins if there were any issues of concern discussed at a recent gathering at Defiance. Collins explained that a speaker from the IRS spoke about employee benefits and taxing those benefits if given.

Police Report: Talbott did not have a report.

Fire Department: Elwood did not have a report.

EMS Department: Mike Harris stated there is interest from a second EMT for the paramedic course.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Haver passed out information given to him about Sarah's House fundraiser, the 2006 Defiance Municipal Court Report and the RLF Committee minutes. He noted the committee was agreeable to using some of the RLF funds for an East High Street Sewer Project and a retention pond at the Industrial Park.

The Hicksville Beautification Committee is trying to organize a Farmers Market. They asked council's permission to either use the driveway between Tribune Printing and the Huber Opera House or parking spaces in front of some downtown businesses. Council was against using downtown parking spaces and opinions were mixed on using the driveway. Other areas were tossed around also. Council voiced their support of the event.

Pocratsky mentioned that Alice Hook would like to come to a council meeting a do a Power Point presentation on the library issue that will soon be on the ballot. It was noted this is an important issued because our library has lost hours and employees. Mayor Haver noted that Governor Strickland is advocating Taft's budget for libraries but it is not sufficient to run libraries.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn

MAYOR

CLERK