

Minutes of Regular Council

April 16, 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; and Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins. Administrator Kent Miller was absent.

Haase moved to approve the April 2 minutes. Foster seconded. All voted yes.

Pocratsky moved to approve the bills with the addition of a Zachrich bill for \$21,375.08. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Mayor Haver read Proclamations for retiring firemen Dennis Gipple and Dale Gallup and EMT, Ed Breen.

Amy Murphy and Alice Hook gave a presentation in support of the library levy scheduled for the next election.

Cable TV Committee: Foster reported the committee met Saturday, April 14 at 8:00. Minutes were passed out at the meeting. Foster gave an overview of the meeting. Collins has been asked to send a letter to Mediacom pointing out current issues.

Finance Committee: Foster reported there will be a meeting to audit the books on Monday, May 7th at 6:15 p.m.

Police/Fire/EMS Committee: Foster called a meeting for April 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Administrator's Report: In Miller's absence, the following written report was submitted: Sewer related: pending issues include the UV Channel, drying beds vs. sludge press, the Long Term Control Plan, Phase II (doing what and using who), and whether or not we are going to pursue looking for an operator. The UV channel and the press/beds items need attention soon, as it will take a bit of time to get things moving even after the decision is made. So everyone is aware, DEFA stated the drying beds are eligible for contingency funds, but the sludge press is not.

Water related: there is the new tower, and land (for a tower and/or well). On both utilities, I will keep reminding council of these as about 25% of 2007 is already gone. Council still needs to be considering raising rates -- there are going to be some big expenses coming besides the normal yearly increases. On a tower, it appears the going rate is between \$800-\$900,000, so the small contingency being set aside now is a drop in the bucket. Land costs--no idea. Phase II of the sewer will take quite a bit regardless of which option is chosen, and you already have seen the utility bill for the new plant has been much higher. Starting now to set aside some money seems prudent, as waiting is not going to make the problems go away.

I spoke to ODOT. They still need to do their final measuring, and if it is feasible to move the center line, they will. However, it may not be a 100% lock that it can be moved. You should be prepared to have a decision ready in the event the line can't be moved--are you going to leave it No Parking or not? For what's it worth, on my end, people happy with the no parking have outnumbered complaints by a large margin. Another comment heard is that if you make it parking, tickets should be issued to folks parking in front of the hydrant. Lastly, I want to clear up something said at last meeting about part of council not being informed of what was going on. I pointed out at the March 5 meeting that the signs were set on February 23. The decision to put up the signs was made on 19 February when the Street/Light/Property committee met after the regular council meeting. (Did the committee turn in any minutes to help clarify things?)

General pick up was last week. We loaded approximately 60 tons of trash. Our guys got things wrapped up in two days, even with it pouring down rain most of Wednesday. I also want to thank Werlor's for their help. Residents should be reminded that we are now back to normal pick up.

In response to Miller's report, Mayor Haver reported the WWTP employees have the sand filter beds cleaned out and they want to dig down deeper to see the drainage line. Council was agreeable.

Rates need reviewed by the Water/Sewer Committee.

The UV Channel was hooked up today and will process 2.5 million gallons of waste. Miller is supposed to get prices of drying beds vs. presses.

Beverly thought the East High Street parking matter was decided as did most other council members. Based on measurements and fire hydrant it was previously decided there is not room to park. Chief Szabo offered to re-measure to substantiate the decision.

Miscellaneous: Ordinance 2007-04 to rezone part of lot number 97 of the auditor's plat of the Village of Hicksville was read by caption only for the second reading.

Ordinance 2007-05 regulating golf cart use within the Village was read by caption only for the second reading. A lengthy discussion followed relating to questions and comments made to council members and the intentions residents have for using the term "golf cart" rather loosely. A mile per hour limit was discussed which it was felt would set it apart from 4-Wheelers, etc. Chief Szabo would like to meet with the Ordinance committee again before the next meeting.

Ordinance 2007-06 establishing a pay increase for the EMS chief was read by caption only for the first reading. Haver moved to suspend the rules. Foster seconded. All voted yes. Ordinance 2007-06 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Haase moved to approve. Pocratsky seconded. All voted yes.

Ordinance 2007-07 authorizing the Mayor to sell lot three at the Industrial Park was read by caption only for the first reading. Jones moved to suspend the rules. Beverly seconded. All voted yes. Ordinance 2007-07 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Haase moved to approve. Haver seconded. All voted yes.

Resolution 2007- 06 to enter into an Enterprise Zone Agreement was read for the first reading by caption only. Jones moved to approve. Haase seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2007- 06 was read by caption only for the second and third reading. Pocratsky moved to approve. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

It was noted the BOCA Code needs replaced by the International Code.

Clerk’s Report: Collins shared financial statements and had council okay the uniforms the EMS chief plans to purchase. The purpose was to avoid violating the IRS rules on clothing and fringe benefits. The uniform discussed can not be mistaken for everyday wear out in the public and was approved. It was recommended Collins call the county auditor for more detailed information.

EMS: Mike Harris reported he is trying to get a Basic EMT class started.

Mayor’s Report: Matt Gilroy was present to follow through on some work he was doing for the Village before he resigned from the County Economic Development office. He was thanked for his work. The monthly court report was in the packet. Mayor Haver explained a change order he has for the fire project.

Mayor Haver put a letter written to the Soil & Water in the packet. It stated the Village is receptive to the idea of the Merritt Ditch Stream Restoration Project. Beverly told council we should get our ducks in a row so we are prepared when the time comes. Spanning a bridge for a future road over to State Route 49 was specifically mentioned. He pointed out we would want a straight shot across the ditch.

Mayor Haver thanked the library board for coming tonight.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

MAYOR

CLERK