

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

July 2, 2012 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: Council members, Mike Headley, Mark Haver, Mick Pocratsky, Ron Beverly, Mike Barth and Ron Jones; Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins; Administrator, Kent Miller and Solicitor, Troy Essex. There were 7 visitors present.

Haver moved to approve the June 18, 2012 minutes. Pocratsky seconded. Beverly, Barth, Haver, Headley & Pocratsky voted yes. Jones abstained.

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

Dave York of EJ Prescott was present to talk to council about radio read meters. EJ Prescott is authorized to represent Sensus Meter Company. He explained to council that the radio read meters and transmitters come with a 20 year warranty for 100% accuracy. There are no moving parts as ions pick up water flow. A new "lead law" takes affect on January 1, 2014. Basically, anything containing lead that is removed from a pit can't be replaced. Council was told that generally any meters that are 10 – 15 years old commonly have 60 – 65% accuracy. With the new radio read system you can walk by, drive by or place a transmitter on a tower that would pick up the entire town with the punch of a button. A 45 day history can be pulled up that will show 24 hours worth of history for each day. He stated we would be able to tell when someone got a drink of water, took a shower or flushed a toilet. It will also flag a meter if there is a continual leak, tampering or empty pipe. A 1" meter will be able to register 55 gallons per minute. A ¾" meter will be able to register 25 gallons per minute. The proposed meters will read all the way down to 0.03 gallons of consumption. Sensus has its own radio frequency. Remote read meters are no longer being made. Some company did buy up all they could and are selling them but that supply will eventually dry up. When asked, Jessi stated that she does bench test meters sometimes but typically they are dead or the problem was caused by "other circumstances". Mayor Haver stated the committee will investigate and get back with sales rep, Bud Henke.

Police/Fire/EMS Committee: The June 18 committee minutes were in packets.

Water/Sewer/Refuse: The June 14 committee minutes were in packets.

Park Board: The June 20 meeting minutes were in packets. Brent Neidhardt was present from the park board.

Revolving Loan Committee: The June 20 minutes were in packets.

Administrator's Report: Letters from Ben Gerken of the Defiance County Soil and Water, EPA Notice of Violation dated June 19, 2012, EPA Letter regarding the NPDES Permit, and a letter to Dana Martin-Hayden from WWTP Superintendent Ron Daniels were in council packets. Miller reminded residents that the garbage collection that would normally be held on Wednesday, July 4 will be held on Thursday, July 5 instead. Recent storms have caused tree trimming and chipping to be necessary. Tree trimmers are currently in the process of taking out branches cutting down some trees in the right-of-ways. They will do village work before residential work. People that had food spoilage due to a lack of power will be allowed to put out more garbage bags if they call to make arrangements for the pickup.

Miscellaneous:

Resolution 2012 – 09 to give service weapon and badge to honor former Police Chief Laurie Szabo was read by caption only

for the first reading. Pocratsky moved to suspend the rules. Headley seconded. All voted yes. The second and third readings of Ordinance 2012-09 were read by caption only. Pocratsky moved to approve. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Essex had a HUD – 1 Uniform Settlement Statement as related to the lot on the corner of Arthur and North Main Streets (a/k/a 313 North Main Street) which the County Commissioners have offered to the Village. Essex will have Mayor Haver sign it and he will get it filed. The village will get a check in the amount of \$121.80 for pro-rated real estate taxes

Clerk/Treasurer’s Report: Collins passed out the MYD/YTD Cash Report and Income Tax Reports and the payroll reports for the fire dept. and EMS..

Police/Fire/EMS: Mayor Haver swore in Doug Willis as Chief of Police. Chief Willis proposed promoting Sargent Monty Ballinger to Lieutenant and Patrolman Matt McDougall to Sargent. Headley moved to approve. Barth seconded. All voted yes. Mayor Haver recommended hiring Joshua Flanary as a Patrolman II with a six month probationary period pending good physical and drug screen. Starting pay will be \$15.06 during the probationary period which represents fifty cents less per hour than the pay ordinance. Jones moved to approve the Mayor’s recommendation. Headley seconded. All voted yes. Willis continued by giving the residents a public warning that we have drought conditions and to use their heads before using fireworks. Willis mentioned that the 5K run, walk or ride at the Hicksville Summer Fest is coming up on August 4th. He turned to Fire Chief Cramer and on behalf of the Police Dept. challenged the Fire Dept. to a race to earn money for the Chamber. Willis held up the PD’s official race shirt for Cramer to see what he would be reading on their backs.

Fire Chief, Scott Cramer thanked everyone for help given during the storm emergency last Friday. He informed residents that there is an emergency shelter at the First Church of Christ and there are daytime hours for use as a “cooling center” if needed. Cramer reminded residents that if they intend to have a recreational fire make sure they wet the area down well and keep a hose handy in case of an emergency.

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Haver commended employees, volunteers and residents for their response to the storm emergency clean up. He stated things were handled quickly and efficiently. He wished Laurie Szabo all the best in her retirement. It was noted that the park board prefers there is no smoking at park activities. It was recommended that we allow free swimming through the rest of the week due to the hot conditions. All were in agreement. Pocratsky has been removed from the Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee at his request and moved to the Insurance committee. Mark Haver was moved to the Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee and removed from the Insurance Committee.

Barth moved to adjourn. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

MAYOR _____ CLERK/TREASURER _____