

## June 1, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Pledge, prayer, roll call – all in attendance

Mayor Finlayson swore in the newest council member, Maria App. The position ends in 2025

Acceptance of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Motion to accept by White, second by Oberlin. Roll call vote – approved.

Acceptance of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion to accept by Lawver, second by Oberlin. Roll call vote – approved.

Acceptance of payment of the bills was delayed until July's council meeting as fiscal officer, Barb Kline was unable to complete the reconciliation by meeting time since the 1<sup>st</sup> landed on council day. Barb will email council and mayor once the reconciliation is complete.

Corrections or additions to agenda, none.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKS**

**Dan ?**, Raised concerns regarding the parking lot that actually extends 3' x 70' onto his property. He is requesting the pavement on his property be removed. Dan Oberlin asked if he would consider selling some of his property as we are in dire need of additional parking. He said no. Maria asked if we could wait until the next street and alley to determine the best way to correct the issue? Dan agreed, he just is requesting this be resolved. Dan stated the pavement doesn't need pulled up but is requesting a clear defined barrier to prevent parking on his property. Levi suggested a guard rail to prevent parking onto Dan's property. Steve Babik stated if we had a village administrator then one would be empowered to make these types decisions. Since that position is vacant Steve stated the council could delegate to the street superintendent to make such decisions up to a specified spending limit.

Recommendation was to use a saw and cut the asphalt and remove it from Dan's property. Beyond that a recommendation will come out of street and alley. Dan also provided approval to wait until after the Strawberry Festival.

**Chris Berens** asked if we have changed the sprinkling hours? Tedd and Dan explained that currently there are no sprinkling hours in the current water rules. This changed approximately 1.5 years ago. The assumption is that now that people pay for usage they will watch how much they use. Chris then asked about the cleaning lady. When is she in the offices to clean, when was it approved? It was approved last fall and she comes once per month and usually on Mondays. Lastly, we have the monument and they are currently painting it. She showed the illustrations on display on the white board. She said they are welcome to come down and see the painting in progress.

**Rebecca** – She called and left a message for Tedd to call her but since he didn't she decided to come to the meeting. She reminded everyone that the Strawberry Festival is next week. She has spoken to Levi and the trash dumpster will be delivered on Tuesday. She talked to Levi

about trash collection which is a big thing. She also spoke with Randy regarding police protection which is also a big thing. The festival will start on Thursday at 4:00. The tents will be delivered Tuesday or Wednesday and was wondering when the street closures will begin? She will have vendors also coming on Wednesday and needs to have closures starting Wednesday and tents won't come down until Monday morning. Her next concern is regarding zoning, and the huge huge construction building next to her property. Her biggest concern is when she does sell her property what that building will do to her resale value. She stated her side of the road is not zoned for business. She also states they share a driveway and large trucks go in and out of their driveway. At the end of the day, we have a zoning book and we need to read it and enforce it. He runs his business in his home and in order to run the business in his home he needs to have a zoning variance. She also stated that we will be having a bicentennial in 2025 and need to keep this in mind.

### **Old Business – none**

### **Mayor Speaks:**

- Committees for the remainder of 2023:
  - Finance – Chair will be Will Bellinger along with Lawver and White
  - Safety – Chair will be Bruce Lawver, along with White and Bellinger
  - Street & Alley – Chair will be Oberlin with Diveley and App
  - Parks & Rec – Chair will be Diveley with Oberlin and App
- The hiring committee had an interview with Zelda Saal last night for the open assistant clerk position. Tedd passed around her resume for council members to review. She lives in Akron and has a good background in accounting. Like everyone else that they have interviewed, she has no background with UAN. Barb stated UAN isn't hard, easy to teach. Tedd also explained other duties that need done, as an example welcome packet, digitizing meeting minutes, ordinances, and resolutions. Will recommend we hire Zelda as a 6-month temp and re-evaluate at 6 months to determine if the position is still needed. The council recommendation is to place an add for both this position and the village administer position and see what kind of response we receive.
- Final reading for the street closures. Barb read by title only and we amended the dates to close early morning of Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup> to noon on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Oberline made a motion to accept. Seconded by White and roll call vote – call voted yes.

Had a meeting with Mike Jones, the head person out at the Tuscarawas County Water and Sewer out in Wilkshire Hills regarding the village's water lines. Spoke regarding the EPA lead pipe and water line replacement projects. He received some good news on both projects. Mike said we shouldn't have as many water lines to replace as previously thought. Tedd's understanding is rather than almost 10K feet of lines needing replaced to approximately 5K feet of lines will need replaced. The lead pipe project, Tedd had the understanding we had to go to each house with a meter and determine if there was lead present. There are exceptions to that

as all homes built after 1967 had to have non lead pipes so those homes will not need to be individually inspected. He stated there are some other things that will be used to determine which are inspected. He will need someone to look into those. He requested council approval to obtain a civil engineer. This is something that would have no upfront cost. The engineer would sell themselves on why we should go with them. He will be placing an ad for the engineer. Motion to approve placing an add by Oberlin, second by ???. Roll call vote, all voted yes.

- There is there a street light and parts ready to be put installed. Tedd requested approval to obtain bids. Recommendation since it will be under \$50K to just place calls to obtain bids. Barb to reach out to brother in law in electricians union for the names of companies he would recommend.
- Wyatt is back as summer help. He has been his weight in gold and is currently only making \$12 per hour. Tedd recommend we give him a \$1 and hour raise. Oberlin made a motion to give him a \$3 an hour raised. Will seconded it. Roll call vote, App voted no, all others voted yes.
- The large dump truck won't start again. Tedd's brother and his repairman looked at it and said it is part of the starter system. App recommended we reach out to the township and see who they use in Strasburg.
- Wyatt and Levi worked on the King property on Poplar Street. Tedd spoke with the auditor's office on how to bill the property for the work.
- Newsletter will be going out on the 15<sup>th</sup> with the water bills. If you have anything you want to be included to make sure and let him know soon.
- Tedd wanted to give a special shout out to Chuck Williams and Rick Wigfield for their help when we were shorthanded. They stepped up and pitched in to keep things running. Chuck has also been great about stepping in with training with Levi.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance – Bellinger**

- Barb was unable to provide numbers, this will be covered next month
- Still looking for a village administrator, the one we had hired decided not to take the job the day before he was to start.
- Emergency siren parts are on order.
- Spouting work is almost complete.
- New tires have been put on the Tahoe Police Cruiser
- Need to follow-up on the bills from Troys from the cruiser repairs.
- Star Ohio interest for the month of May \$2,158.53. Barb will have to provide the rest by email and include in next month's meetings.
- The county provided the results of the bids for the paving project. The low bid came in at \$119,041

- Barb is looking into Huntington Bank to process our online water payments. It will be less expensive than our current processor.
- Barb underpaid herself when she ran payroll last time by 8.25 hours and will be adding that into her next pay.

#### **Planning Commission – Bellinger**

- Next meeting is Monday at 5:30

#### **Safety – Lawver**

- Police had XX calls for the month of May
- Cruiser has received new tires
- Randy and Eric completed their bullet proof writing training
- Discussion regarding the broken pc in the cruiser. We are looking at the cost of pc vs tablet because we received a quote to replace with the exact type we have today would be over \$3K.

#### **Chief – Haugh, Nothing to add**

#### **Street Superintendent – Kaser**

- Levi and Wyatt have been busy mowing which has been taking up the majority of their time. They mowed and cleaned up the bank on State Route 212 as you enter Bolivar from the west. It looks much better and give people driving in a much better view as they drive into town. They spent a lot of time cleaning up the King residence. The flowers have been planted by Earl. They have the mulching done. Fox Alley and ??? has been taken care of. Levi stated the trails are being maintained and he did notice a tree that is rotted out. Barb told him that we do have a tree budget and they could work together on that.
- An add needs to be placed for a second seasonal helper for the street department.
- Levi stated the Gator has some mechanical issues that need addressed after the strawberry festival. He isn't sure if it is still under warranty and has reached out to AgPro. He also stated they are having issues with the John Deer over heating and that is under warranty and both will go in for repairs after the festival.
- Maria raised her concern with the weeds over at the truck turn around across from Water Works Park. Levi stated they have already cleaned that up. Suggestion to possibly plant native Ohio plants there.

#### **Shade Tree – nothing to add**

#### **Water Rates – Bellinger**

- Will handed out the water data Matt Judy put together before he left. It provides the ability to play with the numbers to determine rate changes and the impacts of those rate changes.
  - At Street and Alley, they had discussed and hammered out what they would like to do with the rates. Upon council approval, their thought was to raise the base water rate by \$2 per month. This would take it from \$43 to \$45 a month and increase the usage rate from \$5.75 to \$7.25. By increasing these rates, it will bring in approximately \$29K extra dollars. We need to start increasing the rates to cover the cost of the water projects we having coming up. The biggest project being the water line replacement. They have also estimated out to increase by \$2 next year and \$3 the following. This is just an estimate and will need to relook at the water numbers before making any further decisions. They just want to make sure the people are aware that these increases are a real possibility. He wants to avoid a large increase due to not planning ahead. The recommend is to do the increases with three readings which would put the new pricing in place in September. Barb asked if the increase would impact the homestead water rate and Will stated yes. This would also increase the price for those outside of the corporation limits. There was a study on water line replacement approximately 3 years ago and then it was a \$3 million estimate. Steve is requesting the ordinance wording for the last water increase. Barb to look for it and send to Steve and council.

#### **Parks & Rec – Diveley**

- Loretta stated she had provided the name and address for the Kimble check to be sent to for the recycling charity donation. Tedd had designated the TV Softball/Baseball Association for the donation this year. Barb stated she had provided that information to Kimble and as far as she knew the check had been sent. Barb did ask Lorretta to confirm with the TV SB Association if they had received it.
- Discussion regarding the areas that the village is required to mow. There was discussion regarding Tusky Valley providing the village with an easement to mow over by the school. The biggest part of the discussion as to what the village is responsible for vs the school. Barb also asked Levi if he has had the fun of mowing over by the library. Both stated the grass over by the library is in horrible condition and the possibility of reseeding it this fall.

#### **Fiscal Officer – Kline**

- Barb requested council and the mayor to send agenda items to her by end of day the Friday would be great but no later than the Monday morning before the council and finance meetings . The reason is to ensure there is one consolidated list of items and they are provided in the agenda to those in attendance. Also, so she can review for any

item that need legislation written up for so she can get them sent to Steve for preparation.

- Barb also raised the issue of the school property. If it goes we will have a serious issue with the existing bats. We need to do our best to keep those bats in town as they are great at keeping mosquitos and other insects under control. She stated she has had several residents asking about putting up bat houses.
- Barb stated she needs approval by council to set up a new fund setup in UAN. In order to get it approved by Tusc County I have to have the council approved legislation. Maria stated I need to fill out a form and send it to the State of Ohio. Barb will look into sending the form to Ohio but still needs the approved legislation. Maria said to check my email for Tisha of LGS (local government services). Bellinger made a motion to approve the resolution, White seconded the motion. Vote by roll call – yes.

### **Village Administrator – TBD**

Solicitor – Babik

- Steve stated in respect to the village administrator position, there is nothing in the statute that would cause a vacancy of the position to lead to abolishment of the position. He looked at 735.272 is how you transfer authority to and from the board of trustees of public affairs to village administrator and there is nothing there about the vacancy. He also checked general powers and duties 735.29 and checked there regarding the vacancy and there was nothing there as well. The only statute dealing with abolishment of the position had the legislative authority of the village may abolish the position by ordinance. There is nothing regarding a vacancy and it being abolished as a result.
- There has been discussion of whether or not the village has a board of tax appeals and if so who is on it? Maria stated there is one and we should check with Heather as to who is on it. So far, we have not had to use it.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the spending limit, read by title by Steve. Motion to approve by White, seconded by Lawver. Roll call vote – all voted yes.

Motion to adjourn by Oberlin, seconded by White. Roll call vote – all voted yes.

