

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on April 19, 2010.

INVOCATION

Hart offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council answered roll call; Tim Clapper, John Curtis, Steve Hart, Darrell Levings, Dianne Matuch, Emily Shaffer. The Clerk declared a quorum. Mayor Mike Porter, Solicitor Tod Brininger, Administrator Dan Rogers and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Mermann were present.

MINUTES

Shaffer moved and Clapper seconded to approve the 4/5/10 minutes. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes, Levings yes, Matuch yes.

GUESTS

Guests included Don Staiger, Rachel Mandell from the Sentinel, and residents Ruby Jackson, Bob Smith and Marilyn Smith.

Ms. Smith informed Council she has been in contact with Administrator Rogers and Mayor Porter since November 2009 without a resolution to her on-going problem with a neighbor. She stated she has talked with the neighbor as well as written a letter outlining her complaint of excess water from his sump-pump flooding her property. Rogers explained he has met with the neighbor who is aware the water is draining illegally onto Smith's neighboring property and is working with him to correct the problem. When the area was developed in the mid-1960s, many downspouts were improperly connected to the sanitary sewer causing drainage problems throughout the area. The ARRA Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project currently in process is expected to correct many of the flooding problems.

Mrs. Jackson, a neighbor of Ms. Smith, spoke of a similar neighborhood complaint but her first concern was a neglected residence with an unsupervised juvenile living there. The lawn remains un-mowed and trash is in the back yard. Rogers stated a certified letter will be sent requiring the property be cleaned and lawn mowed. Mrs. Jackson stated such letters are ignored and requested an ordinance requiring residents be required to mow lawns every two weeks or have the cost assessed to their water bills. Solicitor Brininger stated the law would prohibit assessing the utility bills for the blight clean-up. Mrs. Jackson's second issue to Council was her dissatisfaction with the ARRA (American Recovery & Reinvestment Act) Sanitary Sewer Project. She stated that she and her husband were not notified of the public meeting held prior to the beginning of the ARRA project and although Deer Creek Excavating accommodated Mrs. Jackson's every request to not disturb the various landscaping, the property has not been restored to her satisfaction. She stated she was promised topsoil to complete her lawn restoration. Rogers and Mayor Porter assured both Ms. Smith and Mrs. Jackson the final payments would not be awarded until the project is completed satisfactorily. Lawns will be leveled and seeded.

POLICE CHIEF-BRIAN ZERMAN

Chief Zerman was excused.

FIRE CHIEF-DON STAIGER

Chief Staiger reported, pending final inspections, 2 houses would be burned for firefighter training. The first house is outside the Village and the second house is the Village owned property located at 125 Iberia St.

FEMA Grant in the amount of \$87,928.00 was awarded the Department for a Training Library, an Accountability System, Radios & Repeaters System, and a Diesel Exhaust Removal System. Of the \$92,000.00 grant, the department will be responsible for \$4,600.00. Council was encouraged to attend a demonstration of the Accountability System at 6:30 PM on 4/27/10. Specifications will be prepared before bids are advertised for the system and the Diesel Exhaust Removal System.

COMMITTEES & RECOMMENDATIONS

STREETS-DARRELL LEVINGS

The committee met on 4/14/10 at the renovated street office. Levings commended the employees for the restoration project.

FIRE & POLICE-DIANNE MATUCH

No report.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL-STEVE HART

The committee met prior to the Council meeting. A proposed policy regulating the use of credit cards was reviewed briefly. The policy, recommended by the recent audit, will be presented for Council approval at a future meeting. The review and possible changes of the Personnel Policy is continuing. A brief discussion focused on job descriptions, qualifications and supervision.

UTILITIES-TIM CLAPPER

The committee will meet following the Council meeting tonight to continue to review and project water and sewer revenue and expenditures. Future rate increases will be proposed following the review.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT & ZONING-JOHN CURTIS

A notification and application for the Dr. Nathan Tucker Awards will be published in an upcoming edition of the Sentinel.

CODES & REGULATIONS-EMILY SHAFFER

The committee met on 4/5/10. The final revisions of Ordinance 1636 were distributed to Council.

The committee is scheduled to meet on 5/3/10 at 6:00 PM to discuss the proposed Union Street and downtown parking restrictions and Ordinance 1125 and 1127, Signage and the Downtown Design Review Board.

ADMINISTRATOR-DAN ROGERS

Rogers reported sludge hauling from the WWTP will be completed this week. Minor repairs were completed on the Vactor-Jetter.

Water brine valves cleaning will be completed this week. A fire hydrant was replaced in the Brookhaven Apartment area.

New restricted parking signs will be posted in the Lee St. and Grant St. areas

Rogers reported the ARRA Storm Sewer Project is nearing completion with only minor problems and the long-time flooding problem in the Northwood area will be resolved. The project includes Cypress Lane, Hickory Lane, Willow Lane, Dogwood Lane and Catalpa Lane. Astro Pool began the pool repairs last week. The proper drains will be installed, in compliance with State code, although they are not required for this type of pool.

The TEP project to renovate the Monument area is nearing completion with the asphalt and paving this week. Painting the streets and parking areas will begin in the downtown area. Rogers assured Council all residents in the ARRA Storm Sewer Project area were notified of the public meeting by letters as well as notices in the weekly Sentinel.

MAYOR- MIKE PORTER

Mayor Porter extended an invitation to the Arbor Day activities scheduled for 4/30/10 and read a Proclamation designating April 30th Arbor Day in Mt. Gilead.

"Road Closed" signs have been posted in the east and west end of High Street in an attempt to redirect truck traffic away from the Monument area. Damage caused by the large vehicles on the narrow side streets has been extensive in places because the detour signs were being ignored. Local traffic has also created illegal short-cuts through parking lots in an attempt to maneuver the construction area. Porter extended appreciation to Administrator Rogers for continuing the street maintenance despite the downtown construction and the excessive dirt and grit, the result of the State's winter road "salting". Rogers stated municipalities throughout the State have registered complaints of the residue along streets and in the storm drains.

SOLICITORS-GRIFFITH & BRININGER

No report.

CLERK-TREASURER-SUE MERMANN

Hart moved and Curtis seconded to approve payment of the bills. Roll call; Hart yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Shaffer yes, Levings yes.

Ordinance 1636 was presented for the third reading. Shaffer moved and Hart seconded to adopt the Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance. Roll call; Shaffer yes, Hart yes, Curtis yes, Clapper yes, Matuch yes, Levings yes.

Resolution 4-5-10 was presented for the second reading. Levings moved and Shaffer seconded to pass the recreation levy ordinance to the third reading. Roll call; Levings yes, Shaffer yes, Matuch yes, Clapper yes, Curtis yes, Hart yes.

The YTD Fund Report was distributed.

The 2008/2009 Audit is nearing completion. The Exit Conference Declaration Form was presented. Council declined an audit conference from auditors Julian & Grube, Inc.

OTHER

Shaffer reported a recent complaint that the Park Ave. ball diamond bleachers have not been replaced and suggested that land-scaping timbers could be used for seating. Rogers explained the old bleachers were deteriorating and the cost of replacement, to State ADA compliant code, would be prohibitive. The area has been graded and seeded for the coming season.

Curtis moved and Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:25 PM.

Sue Mermann, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Porter, Mayor

Dan Rogers, Administrator