

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 27, 2024

PRESIDING: Mayor Peter Wilson

PRESENT: Temple, Darcy, Cox, Donnalley, Hiner, Smith & Beech

ABSENT:

The regular meeting on February 27, 2024, was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Peter Wilson presiding.

Mayor Wilson opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Temple made the motion to approve the minutes from the 2/13/24 regular meeting.

Darcy 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Darcy made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$9,943.19 and payroll for PPE 2/17/24 in the amount of \$58,900.02.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

GUEST (S):

The Keller Family was present requesting the use of the gazebo on Saturday March 30th at 2pm, they would like to have short Easter Concert lasting about 40 minutes They have their own equipment and would not need the village microphone or sound system. . Council man Cox stated he has no issue, others on Council agreed. When asked they needed to complete the proper paperwork through the police department, Chief Abraham said since it was such a brief time, he would just put it on the calendar. The family than sang a song from their performance for those in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: 2024 BI ANNUAL CLEAN UP

Mayor Wilson reported Ms. Crane had contacted several companies with only Ohio Valley Waste providing a quote, this is the same company who did the last at a cost of \$9,650.00. The cost for this year is \$10,000.00. The mayor once again mentioned he had a few people contact him about moving the clean up day scheduled for the first Saturday in May until the 2nd Saturday since the high school prom was also on the first Saturday. When asked how long it had been on the first Saturday it was reported since the inception of the bi annual clean up except for the year of the pandemic when moved to the fall. Council President Hiner stated she does not see any reason to move the clean up just because of the prom and a few asking when it has always been on the 1st Saturday. Council woman Temple and Donnalley both felt it would look better to have it moved, the mayor agreed he would like to see it moved to the 2nd Saturday of the month.

Temple made the motion to approve the bi annual clean up at a cost of \$10,000.00 and having it on May 11th.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes, with Hiner voting no

Motion Passed

RE: ORDINANCE 2182-2024 AS AN EMERGENCY – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADULT USE CANNABIS OPERATORS AND THE ISSUE OF BUILDING PERMITS....

The Mayor questioned if this moratorium were smart, he feels the moratorium would be too long and the village would miss the opportunities. Council President Hiner stated she has been researching, citing that the license applications are due by June and would not be issued until September. The state is only issuing 350 licenses with provision being in the law for disadvantaged individuals applying for the license and 3 different levels of cultivation license. Meaning that certain drug related offenses would be purged giving these individuals preference on the available license. She also had found the THC level in recreational will be higher than the medical marijuana. The moratorium is temporary which could be removed at any time the village feels fit. The ordinance would give the village including the zoning committee the chance to review exactly how this would go into the zoning including signage. Since signs would need to be placed in all the parks for No Smoking, the smoking of the marijuana would be permitted in those areas.

Hiner made the motion to suspend the rules and regulations needed for passing an ordinance.
Donnalley 2nd All Ayes with a roll call vote
Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to pass Ordinance 2182-2024 as presented as an emergency.
Donnalley 2nd All Ayes with a roll call vote
Motion passed

RE: GRANT STREET BRIDGE UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported since the last meeting he had received the worse call he could as mayor, he received a call from ODOT indicating the construction cost for the project has been increased at an estimated 2.8 million, the original when this started was 1.4 million. This increase from the past would now cost the village an estimated \$700,000.00 in matching funds since ODOT could not go above the 2 million guaranteed with no match. The mayor indicated to ODOT the village just does not have those funds, the next day he received a call again that ODOT had secured an additional 1 million, it was in Federal Dollars and would require matching dollars from the village. Fiscal Officer Wonner reported the total village amount is \$287,690.53 less an estimated remaining balance of OPWC funds in the amount of \$74,911.99 leaving a balance of \$212,778.54 the village would need to contribute at this time. The village does have the \$103,500.00 in ARPA funds from the County leaving a balance of \$109,278.54. The mayor said with council approval he could ask the county commissioners if the \$25,000.00 in ARPA funds from the county for street equipment could be moved to the bridge funding, council indicated they would like him to ask. Mayor Wilson and Ms. Wonner will be meeting with ODOT officials tomorrow morning to discuss an escrow option and the exact amount needed.

RE: CDBG UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported the Port Authority is having a meeting for elected officials on March 5th to discuss CDBG funding. This meeting is RSVP, he ask that if anyone is interested in attending the meeting with him to let him know. He would send in the RSVP.

RE: 2024 CHIP AND SEAL

Street Supervisor Oliver distributed to council a cost estimate to have the alley behind village hall from Beaver St all the way to the end and the alley that runs from Lee Ave (the light at N Market St) east to Beaver St, the estimated cost is \$14,713.38, this cost does not include the preparation work needed on both alleys prior to chip and seal. Mr. Oliver stated he believed this would be no more than an additional \$2,560.00. Council man Cox and Council President stated that this could possibly be \$20,000.00 total before all said and done with rising cost. It was decided to table this for the time being. The village meeting with the county is scheduled for March 13th.

RE: EMS/911 UPDATE

Mayor Wilson addressed Mr. Cusick who was in attendance about his concerns from the last meeting. The mayor has meet with the EMA they are investigating what happened with the call. They are showing the call generated from Elkrun Township, as stated in the last meeting Mr. Cusick's property is both inside village limits and part is outside in the township. The mayor said that for 911 the village primary is North Star the same as if the police department were called directly. Chief Abraham explained the village call order as being North Star first if they are not available West Point is next finally if they are not available Life Team is called. Mayor Wilson said the 911 order also stars with North Star than Cotton from Kensington is next with Chief Abraham stating he could never call Cotton. He recommends West Point as the second call with 911. The village has not indicated with 911 a preferred order, after a decision is made a letter will be sent to EMA. The mayor said he has been told Columbiana is looking into starting an EMS district. Ken Joseph an owner for Life Team was present at the meeting to tell council why he feels his company is the best choice for the village citing reasons against the others in the area on why he is better. Mr. Joseph explained he had purchased the old village hall when sold with the intent to put a garage in town, however when KLG opened theirs his plan changed. Council woman Temple ask if his location in Salem is on the North or South side of the railroad tracks, he indicated he has one on both acknowledging the fact his response time could be delayed with a train both coming to town and taking someone to the hospital. The offices in Calcutta and Wellsville are manned 24/7. When asked if the police department ask if the ambulance is in town, he stated that he does. After some discussion it was decided to hold a committee of the whole meeting Tuesday March 5th at 5:30 pm. At the same time a Parks Committee meeting was scheduled for Saturday March 9th 10:00 am at Cedar St Park.

RE: LISBON LITTLE BLUE DEVIL REQUEST TO USE PARK

Council man Cox indicated the Lisbon Little Blue Devils had contacted him regarding the use of the green area inside the walking path at Cedar St park, their practices begin in July.

Hiner made the motion to allow the Lisbon Little Blue Devils to use the park as requested.
Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

NEW BUSINESS

RE: REQUEST FOR 4-H TO PUT SIGNS ON THE SQUARE

Mayor Wilson said he had been contacted by someone from 4-H to place signs for enrollment in the squares. The request was tabled until a determination could be made on if this is permittable and who should authorize.

RE: ORDINANCE 2183-2024 AMENDED PAYROLL ORDINANCE

Council president Hiner explained this amended is to change and move the seasonal employee position. The current ordinance has only a seasonal maintenance employee listed under the street department; the recommended move would make this position a section on it owns. The position would include all seasonal employees including life guards with a sliding scale of \$10.50 to \$12.00 per hour, the respective committee could than suggest the rate to be paid to council for approval. There was no discussion following her explanation.

Hiner made the motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 2183-2024 as presented.
Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: POLICE ROSTER CHANGE ADDING AN ADDITIONAL FULL TIME POSITION REDUCING THE PART TIME POSITIONS

Council president Hiner explained how it has been difficult to hire and keep part time officers, currently there is one part time person who only works dedicated events the other is an officer who will be moved to the number 10 roster position. The current roster numbers for the department are 10 FT and 8 PT positions, the recommend change would make the FT 11 and the PT 4. This change will help with the current over time hours which to date is over 300 hours. Chief Abraham explained the road is covered with 8 of the current positions the other 2 are the DTF and SRO officers. The SRO will cover the road when school is out approximately 2 ½ months coverage in the summer, when at full staff the department would go back to 4 10 hour days.

Hiner made the motion to increase the full time roster number to 11 and decrease the part time roster number to 4.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The following financial reports were submitted to council: the February month end fund summary. All vouchers were presented prior to the meeting for review and signatures. Ms. Wonner reported the street department expenditures are exceeding their revenues with the unencumbered amount being less than \$1,000.00 at the moment. She requested approval to transfer \$100,000.00 from the general fund (1000) to the street fund (2011).

Cox made the motion to approve the transfer as requested.

Darcy 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

MAYOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The mayor's financial report was distributed to council in their packets.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

The street department report was distributed to council in their packets.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Hall reported Firefighter Logan Foor will be starting his firefighter 36 class on April 17th. The state no open burn from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm during the months of March and April is set to begin, he urged everyone be cautious when burning the ban is also in affect when the weather advisory issues a high wind warning. Council woman Temple ask who she is to call since her neighbor burns trash is that allowed, she had called the police department who than dispatched the fire department, Chief Hall said that is the correct protocol. Burning is not permitted unless the individual is cooking as per Chief Hall.

BPA REPORT

Bill Hoover, BPA Chairman reported the EPA has completed standard ground water testing for village water, all tests came back normal. The office will be closing at 3:00 pm on Thursday of this week for the flooring project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Temple made the motion to go into executive session for the employment of a public official.

Hiner 2nd

All Ayes with a roll call vote

Motion Passed

Council President Hiner invited Fiscal Officer Wonner into the executive session.

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Hiner made the motion to reconvene the regular meeting from executive session at 7:38.
Temple 2nd

All Ayes with a roll call vote
Motion Passed

There was no action taken from the executive session.

With nothing further to come before council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the February 27, 2024, meeting at 7:39 pm.

Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer