

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 26, 2024**

PRESIDING: Wilson

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

The regular meeting on November 26, 2024, was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Wilson presiding.

Pastor Donna Shuman opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES' REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 2024

Hiner made the motion to approve the minutes of the 11/12/24 regular meeting
Darcy 2nd All Ayes
Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Darcy made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$22,794.93 and PPE in the amount of \$146,906.23
Temple 2nd All Ayes
Motion Passed

GUEST (S):

Dale Hood was present to let the community be aware of the passing of a lifelong resident, Bob Thorn. He was a great guy and neighbor; he was 83 years old.

Before getting to the old business on the agenda the mayor wanted to extend a thank you to the police department for their efforts in keeping down the speeding on East and West Washington St. There were tickets written for those who were not obeying the speed limits posted. When the Columbiana Career Center lets out school, Washington St is a speedway. Those efforts by the police department have not gone unnoticed.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: CROSSWALK SIGNAGE E LINCOLN WAY AND PRITCHARD AVE

The mayor had called ODOT on Monday the 25th and they are still figuring out the logistics of who is supposed to order the material. He will keep the council updated on their decision.

RE: GRANT ST BRIDGE UPDATE

The bridge is continuing in its progress with new abutments for the second lane. There has been a change of order to the plans. There is a pipe that needs to be removed for a cost of \$4,146.75 of which the village is responsible for 20%, roughly \$800.00 additional. The Water Dept. was not responsible for this adjustment.

RE: MULCH FOR PLAYTOWN

There is quite a discussion on the mulch for Playtown. The bids range in price from \$10,000 to \$44,000.00. The amount of square footage is another issue with the varying numbers. The mayor feels that it is important to proceed with the project sooner than later, however Councilman Cox and Councilwoman Hiner felt the funds to improve the park were either coming from an outside source, or that the village did not have the money to proceed at this time. Fiscal Officer Tracey Wonner was not present at the meeting to ask how much money the village had to spend on the renovation. Further discussion led to the tabling of the issue.

Concerning the park area, questions were raised about the leak in the pool. Water Supervisor Chris Peterson stated that the camera did not show a leak. The pool has been winterized per mayor Wilson. No further information was presented.

RE: ZONING CODE UPDATE

The second draft should be available in the middle of December or the first part of January.

RE: RENTAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION

Mayor Wilson did not have the additional information. Councilman Cox had issues with the registration only being for the rental properties, how it should be for the entire village of housing. He voiced his concerns for a person off the street getting hired for this position, who is not qualified for inspections and regards trespassing. The mayor referenced the procedures in Salem and East Liverpool, how it is a policy that works. Mr. Cox questioned them about how much liability would fall to the village if the housing inspector signed off on a property and then something happened to the property would the village be liable for the damage? Councilwoman Hiner led her part of the discussion as it should be for all housing within the village and there must be proof of insurance for the rental property, that is step one. All the council agrees that something must be done, but proper steps must be taken to enforce such an ordinance. It will go to our solicitor Beech for review, then the committee of the whole. Residents were present from Sherman St to offer up their opinions again, this ordinance is something that must be brought to the forefront of the council for the village to thrive. Ms. Lewis, saying she wants to be proud of her village, it's the second oldest village in the state and we must do better for our community. If there is money available for training, then get the inspector what they need for the betterment of its residents. Not all landlords are bad or homeowners, the registration must reflect the majority. Ms. St. Clair had the same feelings toward the residents to do their part in the maintaining the integrity of their property. It was brought to the attention of the council; Ms. St. Clair has not been notified of the results of her complaints to the Health Dept. regarding the infestation of rodents next door to her property. The mayor said he would follow up on those complaints.

RE: STATE CAPITAL BUDGET

The mayor asked the council what project he should put in for the village. There is money in the state to award for additional equipment, a sidewalk for Saltwell Rd to McDonalds, or Councilwoman Hiner asked if it could be for the mulch for Playtown. Mayor needed to know what quotes he should get for which request by January especially since these projects do not reflect a monetarily match for the village. The mayor was going to get the quotes and keep the council informed on the progress of the application process.

RE: Miscellaneous

Mayor Wilson informed the council on the TAP application had been submitted and will find out in April if awarded that money. The intern, Mia will be starting in January. The course is available, and she will be helping in the Police Department, and the mayor.

NEW BUSINESS

RE: \$25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Councilwoman Donnalley made the motion to the council for 66 gift certificates for the employees of the village from Save-A-Lot for Christmas totaling \$1,650.00.

Hiner 2nd

All ayes

Motion Passed

Additional discussion on the luncheon for the employees to be on the 18th of December, the rest would be discussed outside of the meeting.

RE: COUNCIL MEETING FOR DECEMBER

Temple made the motion to have the meeting on December 10th then in January 2025 go back to two meetings a month.

Hiner 2nd

All ayes

Motion Passed

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The following financial statements were distributed to the council in their packets: November month end fund summary.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Councilwoman Hiner brought up the question as to where the Street Dept. reports have been in the council packets. She was only seeing the vehicle inspections, not the daily work sheets. The mayor stated Steet Dept. Supervisor Jim Oliver was not in attendance this evening due to having dental work and not feeling well. The emails that the mayor had sent to the council had their daily work provided. Ms. Hiner stated that there really needed to be a report in the council packet.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REORT

Chief Hall reported that the Fire Dept. has been awarded a grant from Marathon Pipeline for \$2,000.00 for a new gas meter. Truck 151 was back in service. Mr. Hall would be applying for additional funding through the ODNR grant for industrial strength leaf blowers. The Fire Dept. currently uses rakes and brooms. This grant is a 50/50 split and would be asking Center and Elkrun Townships for their support of 50%. The Chief reminded everyone to spread the word on fire safety during the holiday season. Keep real trees water, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors tested, blow out candles. The Fire Dept. has handed out detectors to 32% of families in the village after a talk at the schools. Chief Hall was asking for a sum of \$4,600.00 to purchase 1,500 feet of new hoses for the department. Councilwoman Hiner made the motion to permit the chief to purchase the hoses in the amount of \$4,600.00.

Temple 2nd

All ayes
Motion Passed

CEMETERY REPORT

Mr. Cole was present to let the council know that the updating of the chapel was going well.

BPA REPORT

Per Water Dept. Supervisor Chris Peterson, they have been working on hydrant repairs at the Days Inn. Grease was found in one of the traps at Saltwell Rd and N Market St. They will be cleaning those traps on a more regular basis. BPA President Bill Hoover informed the council their meeting will be December 10th also.

ZONING APPLICATIONS

The most current approved zoning applications were distributed to the council in their packets.

The Christmas Parade is December 7 at 5:30 pm Saturday, and pictures with Santa on December 15th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Fire Department, the cost is free.

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the November 26, 2024, meeting at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

Barbara Crane, Administrative Assistant