

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2023**

PRESIDING: Mayor Peter Wilson

PRESENT: Temple, Cox, Donnalley, Thomas & Beech

ABSENT: Darcy & Hiner

The regular meeting on August 8, 2023, was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Peter Wilson presiding.

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

Mayor Wilson thanked the police department for actions at the fair over the last week. The mayor reported there was a juvenile issue where a security officer ask for assistance, the officers who responded and dispatcher handled the call were recognized for their professionalism on deescalating the situation without any incident.

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING JULY 25, 2023

Donnalley made the motion to approve the minutes from the 7/25/23 regular meeting.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Thomas made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$14,849.94

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Thomas made the motion to approve payroll for PPE 7/22/23 in the amount of \$87,691.51

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

GUEST (S)

Matt Weaver, Whitestone Ministries, requested permission to use the realtor park gazebo weather permitting for family socials on Sundays.

Cox made the motion to approve the request of Mr. Weaver.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Marcie Adams, Lisbon Area Chamber of Commerce, updated council on plans the chamber has for the upcoming Johnny Appleseed Festival Sept 16th and 17th. The plans include bringing back the yellow duck race, this race used to be held on Jefferson St in front of the fire department.

Shannon Clark, owner of 126 W Lincoln Way The Lincoln Social Hall, was present at the meeting. Ms. Hall read a prepared letter regarding the denial of her appeal to the ruling on her lettering/sign from the Architectural Design and Review Board to the Board of Building Appeals and passed out a packet to all council members. This packet will be filed in the fiscal office. Ms. Clark in her letter expressed her thoughts on the governing powers in the village including how they influence the economic development of the village. Ms. Clark had been denied her sign request by the AHRB board due the font of the letters not being acceptable in their standards, she appealed to the BBA, prior to the BBA being seated she appealed to Council in May who approved her sign remaining until the BBA board could hear her appeal. Zoning Inspector Zach Barkley explained the zoning code is different than the ARHB code, he is the compliance officer as well for the AHRB, the sign request was approved per the zoning code. Council President Thomas ask if either board had taken into consideration that Ms. Clark's sign was a temporary sign until a permanent

sign could be purchased and installed. This led to discussion on exactly what is temporary and how would other request be handled under the same circumstances in the future. The room full of people expressed their opinions for approximately 45 minutes these opinions at times were heated and full of accusations towards the mayor and council. This included asking who the ARHB is held accountable to, a new business owner saying he has no intention of following the village codes his property is private property and he can do as he pleases, the mayor explaining how the village has bent over backwards for businesses only for businesses to leave the village after or not even opening their buildings, and a person admitting she had looked into investing money in a business in the village but decided not to after learning what she would have to comply to. Village Solicitor Beech when ask what council could do for Ms. Clark reported under the current code there is no law allowing council to overrule the ARHB or the BBA. Ms. Clark is asking for a response to her from council before the next council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: SCOUT SOLAR PROJECT

Council President Thomas reported that council had met with Mr. Brophey who represents Scout Solar, council had several questions and requested to see the project being constructed in Wellsville when that starts. The BPA would also like to go to Wellsville, and they reported they are currently working with the EPA regarding the proposed location at the plant if the village moves forward. It was agreed this will be taken off the agenda until further notice by council.

RE: TREBEL – ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

Mayor Wilson reported the contract has been reviewed by Solicitor Beech once signed will be sent back to Trebel. He hopes the letters to village residents are able to be sent in the next few weeks, the village has prepared a list of in town water/sewer addresses for Trebel to use as a guide for village resident addresses.

RE: PRITCHARD AVE BRIDGE PROJECT

Mayor Wilson requested permission to solicit preliminary budgets for engineering cost associated with the Pritchard Ave bridge replacement. The mayor explained the construction is 100% covered by ODOT, the preliminary engineering and detailed design is covered up to \$200,000.00 and the village will be responsible for environment services, survey and right of way plan and the right of way acquisitions. Council President Thomas indicated she is not comfortable entering into anything at this time, she would also like to see something in writing from ODOT regarding the financing saying the village needs to be fiscally responsible with the projects scheduled, Council man Cox agreed. The mayor indicated this bridge is on the critical repair list by ODOT, this statement ensued back and forth between the mayor and council president after the comment you can tell it is an election year by the mayor. Council woman Temple ask if the mayor had anything in writing at this meeting, he did not. It was decided to table this.

RE: 2ND READING ORDINANCE 2159-2023 – VILLAGE PAYROLL ORDINANCE

Thomas made the motion to approve the second reading of ordinance 2159-2023 the village payroll ordinance.
Donnalley 2nd

Mayor Wilson questioned if the wage increase is the 3.5% across the board, he pointed out that by his calculations the fiscal officer increase is 11.7%. The mayor stated this is not how Council woman Hiner presented the ordinance and he feels the finance committee is trying to slip this by council. He would like the ordinance tabled. Council President Thomas explained this is how the finance committee presented the ordinance after their meeting after some discussion the mayor asked for a vote.

All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: GOVDEALS

Fiscal Officer Wonner explained the application has been completed for the GovDeals, the next step would be training and listing the vehicle to be sold. She reminded council a resolution will need to be passed to authorize the sale of any vehicle. A resolution to sell the Chevy Suburban and old Vaccon will be presented at the next council meeting.

RE: RISERS ON LINCOLN WAY

Mayor Wilson reported the street department will be replacing the concrete around certain risers on E Lincoln Way with blacktop, the concrete does not seem to be staying together. The street department will also be obtaining pricing to replace the 6 remaining risers on E. Lincoln Way per the mayor.

RE: FIRST RESPONDERS RETENTION GRANT THROUGH THE STATE

Mayor Wilson reported the village received confirmation that retention grant has been approved. Eligible employees had to be employed on or before June 17, 2022 and still be employed by the village. The village submitted a list of 13 eligible employees at the time of application, 9 of those employees still meet the criteria. The payment is 10% of an employee's salary up to a salary cap of \$40,000.00, because there were so many applicants the maximum payment is \$4,000.00 per the state. The village has returned the required paperwork for certification before funds being deposited into the village account.

NEW BUSINESS

RE: DERA GRANT – GRANT TO REPLACE BACKHOE

Mayor Wilson reported the DERA grant is being offered once again, he had applied in the past for the cemetery, to which the village was not awarded. He would like authorization to apply once again for the village, this is not for an electric vehicle when ask. Council man Cox ask if there was a cap on the grant amount, the mayor was not sure at this time but would let council know when he found out.

Cox made the motion to authorize the mayor to complete and submit the DERA grant.

Thomas 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The following reports were submitted to council in their packets: July bank reconciliation, July fund summary and the most current August month end fund summary. All vouchers were presented prior to the meeting for review and signatures.

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.

PARK'S REPORT

Council woman Donnalley reported the pool will be open normal hours the week of August 7th and 14th, then it will be open August 26th and 27th and September 2nd thru the 4th for Labor Day weekend closing for the season after this.

BPA REPORT

Bill Hoover, BPA chair, reported the department is reviewing their hydrant repair list with the flushing all completed. There are approximately 5 that need repaired, the department has 8 hydrants in stock. Mr. Hoover wanted to commend the department on how they handled a leak on W. Washington on July 31st opening day of the fair. It was found that the 8” main line had a 13” split, the department repaired the leak under pressure, with the fair going on they did not want to jeopardize shutting anything down.

ZONING REPORT

The most current approved zoning applications were distributed to council in their packets. The board of zoning appeals and the planning commission have both met regarding an application for a zoning reclassification at 114 Exchange St, recommending to council this be reclassified from a R2 to a B2. Zoning Inspector Barkley stated that council would now need to have a public hearing prior to the reclassification ordinance. The hearing was set for Tuesday September 12th at 5:30 pm. Council man Cox questioned if the garage being built on Sunset has been approved and what is the owner’s intent? Mr. Barkley responded it has been approved as storage on the second floor and cars on the first floor, Mr. Cox voiced is displeasure in the looks of the garage, to which Mr. Barkley stated there are no regulations on looks only size in that zoning classification. The zoning committee scheduled a meeting for Tuesday August 15th at 4:30 pm this meeting is for the proposed changes to the current zoning code ordinance.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council President Thomas ask water plant supervisor Peterson if he and Mr. Oliver had completed the requested project list from the last street committee meeting. Mr. Peterson said they are working on it.

Cemetery Board chair Jim Landfried thanked the cemetery employees, Council women Hiner and Thomas and Mayor Wilson for their help during the Columbiana County Fair on parking cars.

Mayor Wilson reminded those in attendance of the concert in the square Friday evening, the ADAPT free swim day on Saturday , the Ghost Walk and the Firemen’s Association upcoming golf outing.

With nothing further to come before council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the August 8, 2023, meeting at 8:15 pm.

Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer