

Hiram Village Council Meeting

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234

May 10, 2016

The following Members of Council were present: Mr. Cobb, Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Hemphill, Mr. Spencer and Mr. Wadkins. Mr. Smith arrived at 8:18 pm. The following were also present: Mayor Lou Bertrand, Village Solicitor Tom Reitz, Fiscal Officer Susan Skrovan, Police Chief Ed Samec, Village Administrator James McGee and Fire Captain Gary Bott.

The following persons were present: Stacy Turner; Reporter for the Weekly Villager, Matthew Merchant; Reporter for The Record Courier, Chris Szell, Park Board Chairman, Mantua Police Chief Harry Buchert, Brad Cromes; Portage County Treasurer and Greg Balbierz.

Mayor Bertrand called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He asked that all cell phones be silenced. There was a moment of silence followed by the pledge to the flag.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the regular minutes of 4/12/16 as presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 5-0 in favor.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the proposed agenda as amended. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Mr. Dempsey and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 5-0 in favor.

GUEST AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Brad Cromes, Portage County Treasurer, addressed Council. Mr. Cromes passed out a breakdown of what his office accomplished in 2015 and their goals for 2016. Some of the items to note were; the home improvement program launched in July of 2015, delinquent property tax collections and the Land Bank program. The County Treasurer's office has also recently updated their website and is now on Facebook. For 2016, they partnered with the Auditor's office to expand the reach of their online payment program as well as a reduced credit card or debit card payment option. They have approximately 1,200 cases right now in foreclosure for delinquent taxes.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Police Chief Ed Samec provided his monthly report. They had 243 offense reports for the month of April. His department has had some departmental training; broken down in his report.

The Police Department raised \$1,044.00 for their Shop with a Cop program. His department was also awarded \$2,000 from the Hiram Community Trust.

Commencement for Hiram College is May 14th. Spring Fest weekend went very well, the weather was poor.

Mantua Village Police Chief, Harry Buchert, was present again to provide Council with an update to the central dispatch proposal. Chief Buchert did state that Windham Fire Department was not interested in changing from the Ravenna City at this time. The group decided to take the amount Windham Fire would have contributed and divide it among the remaining entities; resulting in a new spreadsheet with amendments. It would be approximately \$8,400 more than first projected. Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department is presently shopping around. If we do come together and any entity pulls out; their share would be divided among the remaining participants. That is also true if we bring on any other entities; the savings would be divided equally to help reduce the costs. Time is getting short to have all this come together and give Mantua Village the time to get additional staff onboard and train them. Hiram Village remains under their current contract until a decision is made. Should this dispatch center fall through; Mantua Village will still be approaching Hiram's current contract anyway because of the 911 requirement involving updates to the system. Mantua-Shalersville contract with Mantua Village is up at the end of this year.

Chief Buchert did update everyone on creating a Council of Government. They would be able to form a Council of Government; however, the governing board would have no authority to legislate for levies. The option has been taken off the table; it was the whole reason behind forming the Council of Government. Chief Samec informed Council of what just came to the table and that is a meeting Thursday morning with Chief Byers and him in Aurora. Chief Buchert said the new contract for Hiram Police & Fire would be \$70,750. Our number right now with Mantua Village is approximately \$35,000. The new contract included Mantua-Shalersville Fire District; if they pull out, you are looking at another \$10,000 above the new contract so more like \$80,000. Chief Buchert was asked to explain how the costs were calculated. There is no standard formula to calculate it. More discussion followed.

Village Administrator James McGee presented their April monthly water/sewer report. Regarding the water loss per gallons in our system; James is talking with CT Consultants to find out what the cost would be to try and locate any leaks in our system. Rob Simon, our utility supervisor, was also asked to look into our water loss; he indicated between the Village Hall and all our properties as well as the water tower, we use approximately 570,000 gallons. There is a lot of back washing of filters between the water and wastewater plants. We are looking at the utility billing to tighten that up as well as replacing some older meters. The life expectancy of a meter is about 30 years.

James updated Council on the following projects;

- Sidewalks on State Route: we have some forms and legislation we are working on to get to ODOT. What they requested was slightly higher than what we anticipated. June 13th is the anticipated start date.
- East Side Sanitary Sewer line: the project needs some final grading but the line is installed and complete.
- Expansion of Safety Services building: James spoke with Aquila Architectural Group; he does not yet have the bid documents finalized. He indicated they would be done before Finance.
- Hike & Bike Trail Project: we are finalizing the purchase of the Ohio Edison property. CT Consultants have the final deeds and will be sending someone out with them. There will be a gap now between when the paperwork is complete and actual construction; we wanted Doug McGee to be available at the onset of construction. James said he did speak with Doug McGee and conveyed the Village's desire to hold off on any further work with him until that time. Doug is working to help finalize the Ohio Edison purchase.

Mr. Greg Balbierz was invited by James to come tonight; we wanted to inform Council of upcoming events in Mantua. Mr. Balbierz spoke on the opportunity regarding the Headwaters Initiative 2025. The Hiram Mayor has been very vocal at their meetings supporting the efforts of the Headwater Trail and the Portage Park District. Two months from now is the 8th Annual Art on the Hill; the best cultural and arts festival in Portage County. They will have a re-dedication ceremony mid-day for the Mantua Swamp plaque; which is the only National Natural Landmark in Portage County or NNL. There are only 23 in all of the State of Ohio. The plaque was created 40 years ago. The 8th Annual Art on the Hill is always the second Saturday in July; this year on July 9th from 10 - 6:00 pm.

Mayor Lou Bertrand's report:

MAYOR'S REPORT FOR MAY 10, 2016

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

P & Z did not meet this month. However the Commission in March unanimously approved the purchase of the office and industrial building and parking lot containing 8 acres by MANTALINE CORPORATION from Win-Pro. Mantaline Corporation's grand opening is scheduled for Friday afternoon on the 17th of June 2016 and I hope that all Hiram governmental officers both elected and appointed will attend that important event.

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Again the fourth (4) annual EMPOWERING LOCAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE Thursday, May 12, and Friday, May 13, 2016, in Washington, D.C. is presented by the GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP in conjunction with (left to right): Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge (OH-11), Congressman Dave Joyce (OH-14) and Congressman Jim Renacci (OH-16).

HIRAM COLLEGE:

The College graduation is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14th at Henry Field, weather permitting, and as is Hiram's tradition the Mayor will be honored to participate in this important event for our community.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE:

This year's speaker is LTC. Jason Kerr, Northern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania Battalion Commander of USAREC. Cleveland Recruiting Battalion: 216-802-1400 (office) 1216-926-5582 (mobile)
The parade will step-off at noon, when the Crestwood Scarlet Guard arrives with the Director Mr. Jacob Page. We have over 226 veterans laid to rest within our Fairview Cemetery.

Submitted by:

MAYOR Lou BERTRAND

May 10, 2016

The Fiscal Officer Susan Skrovan presented her monthly financial reports.

The following reports were provided to Council for this meeting:

Bank reconciliation report for April 2016 was presented to Council and the Mayor for signing.

Cash Summary by Fund as of April 30, 2016 was provided in Council packets.

The list of bills as of May 5, 2016 was provided in Council packets.

R.I.T.A. income tax receipts YTD

Correspondence:

- Susan does have the quarterly Portage County Health Department report in her office. Paul Spencer asked if the report can be scanned and emailed to members of Council.
- Susan reminded everyone of two upcoming Ohio Sunshine Law seminars; one at Lakeland Community College on May 18th and the second one will be put on by the City of Norton on July 11th. Council was provided copies of these two in their packets.
- The annual Regional Council of Governments meeting through Regional Income Tax Agency is June 21st; Wendelin and Susan are planning to attend. The meeting is in Brecksville and lasts only about an hour.

A motion to approve the Fiscal Officer's report was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor; Mr. Hemphill had left the room.

A motion to pay the bills as presented was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Dempsey. The result of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor; Mr. Hemphill had left the room.

Fire Chief Bill Byers had provided their monthly report by email. No one was present to report to Council.

HIRAM TOWNSHIP REPORT

There was no Township representative to provide a report this evening.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES

2016-08: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SIDEWALK CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM, OHIO. 3rd READING. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Wadkins. The result of the voice vote was 5-0 in favor.

2016-10: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND (1000) POLICE DEPARTMENT (110) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 5-0 in favor. A motion to approve as an emergency was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 5-0 in favor.

Mr. Dave Smith arrived at 8:18 pm.

2016-11: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND (1000) BY \$8,759 AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE SIDEWALKS FUND (4202) BY \$50,765 AND AUTHORIZING AN ADVANCE OF \$8,759 TO THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND (4202) SIDEWALKS ON STATE ROUTES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve as an emergency was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Smith. Chris Cobb asked if the Village is intending to up 100% of the costs of the sidewalks since we just enacted legislation to allow us to do that. Susan said the ODOT sidewalk project allows the Village to place these funds in escrow or send them a check. Chris said are we going to charge the residents for part of the costs. No, we will not be charging the residents for the new sidewalks. That is the intention of the Village. Overall everyone gains the use of them. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

2016-11: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AND SUBSEQUENT ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS BY THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AND RATIFYING PAST ACTIONS WHICH ARE NOW AUTHORIZED BY THIS RESOLUTION. 2nd READING.

2016-14: A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. 2nd READING.

2016-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA FOR THE PROVISION OF DISPATCHING SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM, WHICH SERVICES INCLUDE DISPATCHING FOR THE HIRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE HIRAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INCLUSIVE OF EMS SERVICE DISPATCHING. 2nd READING.

2016-16: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS OF NO MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE ON MAY 30, 2016. This legislation is an emergency measure and has the section noted as such, however, the header needs to signify "AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY". There are also two sections 5; the second section needs to be changed to section 6. A motion to amend Resolution 2016-16 as noted was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve as amended was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2016-17: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT WINTER CONTRACT (018-17) FOR ROAD SALT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Hemphill and seconded by Mr. Dempsey. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve as an emergency was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Cobb. Chris Cobb asked if this is something that happens on a yearly basis. James McGee explained we do participate every year; what is new is the requirement for us to purchase 90% of what we request. James tried to be as conservative as possible; he does not like the 90% requirement but feels we can absorb that amount in our salt shed, if we need to do so. This contract will give us the best price; however, at this time we do not know what that price will be. Solicitor Tom Reitz added the State competitively bids this out so we do benefit from economy of scale. Chris Cobb said we are probably not a big customer. Solicitor Reitz said, in the eyes of the State bidding, we are and get the big customer pricing. Mr. Wadkins called to question. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2016-18: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO SUBMIT THE BUDGET TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY AUDITOR. 1st READING.

A motion to set the 2017 Budget Hearing for June 14th at 6:30 pm before the next regular Council meeting was made by Mr. Wadkins and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:


Mayor Bertrand acknowledged a letter he received from the Mayor of Aurora Ann Womer Benjamin thanking Hiram Village for our support over the suicide death of an Aurora Police Officer, who also happened to be our Fire Chief, Bill Byers, partner in Aurora. The Mayor will respond to Mayor Benjamin's letter.

Chairman Tom Wadkins wanted to bring an idea before Council. The idea is to have recognition of our department personnel prior to Council meetings, say at 6:30 pm. He would also like to recognize and invite various entities around ours, such as Hiram Township and Garrettsville to connect with others sharing common goals. Tom is willing to coordinate the meetings. Council members felt this would be a good idea and thought to begin in July.

Mayor Bertrand informed Council there is a lot of good information derived from the Ohio Municipal League.

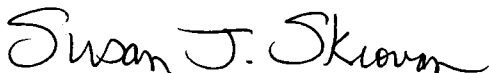
A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Wadkins. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

These minutes are pending approval by Council.



Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:



Fiscal Officer Susan J. Skrovan