

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY REGULAR COUNCIL

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CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Roger Broerman called to order the Regular Council Meeting on August 3, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Village of Fort Recovery Council Meeting Room to conduct regular business.

Roll call was conducted with the following Council members present: Rod Thobe, Cliff Wendel, Al Post, Dave Garman, and Dave Bretz. **Absent:** Dave Kaup. Also **Present:** Randy Diller, Dave Bruns, Roberta Staugler, Kathryn Rubright, PG Jellison, Neal Spencer, John Wendel, Fred Jutte, Ken Romer, Dave Romer, Lavern & Jane Weitzel, Dillon & Paige Schultze and Kathy Thompson.

The Mayor led with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Reports to Council: Village Administrators report, July Income Tax reports.

Minutes: Thobe made a motion to approve the July 20, 2015 minutes seconded by Wendel. **Vote All Yes.**

Poll Visitors: Fred Jutte spoke representing a group in attendance to discuss the proposed Veterans Memorial. John Wendel, Fred Jutte, Ron and Dave Romer have been working toward the goal of constructing a Veterans Memorial in Fort Recovery for the past three years. People have approached them with donations to help construct a Memorial that they would like permission to build on the corner of Monument Park as the Village. They are present to ask permission from the Village as the Village is the owner of a portion on the southwest side of the park. They would like to construct something similar to those constructed in Portland, St Henry and Coldwater. Fort Recovery is the only community that has a memorial park on which to construct a Veterans Memorial. **Mayor:** I have talked to Helen LeFevre and Nancy Knapke, representatives of the Historical Society. They said that you would need to go through the proper channels to obtain permission to do so. **Fred Jutte:** Sara Post has prepared drawings of the proposed memorial which was shared with Council. It is the intent to build something that will not take away focus from the existing Monument. The plan would be to eliminate the existing flag pole and put up four new ones. They have obtained names from a sign currently at the Fort Recovery High School from 1923. They will ask the VFW & Legion to get them the names of Veterans to add to the sign. Everyone is welcome to let them know of any veteran that should have their name added. **Wendel:** I think it is beautiful and a great idea. **Jutte:** We will get rolling, with the goal to be completed by the 2016 Celebration. **Dave Romer:** I would like to see it done by Memorial Day. **Diller:** The majority of the park is owned by the State Historical Society, but the Village does own a part of it. As long as it fits in the scheme of what is already there I see no problem. You just need to go through the proper channels by getting permission from the State Historical Society. **Jutte:** Anyone that has names of local Veterans that they would like added to a memorial plaque may send the information to PO Box 89. **John Wendel:** We will be putting up a Facebook page also for the Veterans Memorial where people can find information. **Mayor:** You have Council's blessing to proceed.

Dillon Schultze: We are here to listen, we may have questions later.

2015-07 ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR AND CHIEF TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT. Thobe made a motion to pass the ordinance to the third reading seconded by Post. **Vote all yes.**

2015-16 RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MERCER CO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO FILE APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION FUND PROGRAM. Wendel made a motion to pass the resolution to the second reading seconded by Garman. **Vote all yes.**

Randy Diller: Projects: Regional Water Study – Poggemeyer won the bid. They are looking at a possible way to combine services. If there is a way we can save money and find where the most probable well field would be located as we will probably be required to dig a new well in the next five years I think we should participate. Jared Ebbing is heading up the grant application. The study came up to \$47,000. We have provided them with a list of expenses our water plant had in the last two years. We have more than met our

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in kind requirement. We will have to throw in \$2,000 to \$2,500 each for the study. Until they get the application together we won't know. This could get us a well field study for \$2,000. St Henry, Coldwater and Burkettsville will also be participating in the study. Paulette from Poggemeyer will be at the next council meeting to explain more.

Lagoons: The lagoons have been pretty well lowered. I talked to Choice One about the preliminary plan for baffles, it is moving along slowly.

CW Egg: I am working with CW on activity.

Zoning: Board will meet in a week or so. Craig Fullenkamp has applied for a variance for 610 S Wayne Street to construct a home. Cooper Farms has applied for a variance for the East Mill on Railroad Street to put in an electrical control.

Street Overlay: I will meet with Wagner Paving this Wednesday. I think it will be completed in the next couple of weeks. We will walk the project.

Alley Closure: They are working on the map.

Brick Street: Kevin Pierce will be here this week. I talked to him last week. He said there is certainly more to it than what John said. He has an idea of what is going on. He wants to know if we need to include everything. He will give us pricing so we know what the cost will be. I found two different notes from past meetings. Both indicated that we would be getting better pavers, that would be more porous, and the color was guaranteed. **Bretz:** Well if there are no tops they aren't the same color. **Diller:** Kevin said sometimes you get a bad batch. It looks like we have bad sections which would indicate a bad batch. I told Kevin he needs to come this week as I want to get this done this year. It will take a crew that knows what they are doing.

119/49 Intersection: I reviewed plans with Andy of Choice One today. They are close to having it final. He thinks they will have it ready to bid out by next week. We want to get done as soon as possible before the state comes through to pave 119. We will be digging out three radiuses.

Community Plan: The surveys were mailed out. We are starting to get some electronic responses back. We received some written back too. Wednesday is the Public Meeting at the School Meeting room. We are getting some good feedback.

Vehicle Purchases: One truck is in. The other truck will be in in September.

Properties: The two properties have been purchased. We will try to get 301 S Elm property removed.

Annexation: Dave Kaup is working with Choice One on the new Indian Heights V subdivision. Should we utilize existing ponds or create separate ones. Choice One will need to complete a Survey and construction plan with a layout and storm water study. It will cost \$23,000; \$15,000 for the utility and \$8,000 for the storm water study. **Thobe: made the motion to authorize Randy Diller to enter into an agreement with Choice One for the survey and construction plan, seconded by Bretz Vote all yes.**

Annexation: I am in the process of meeting with everyone on State Route 49 regarding the water, sewer and sanitary lines. We will probably be bidding out in the next week. Randy talked to Mike Thobe. His original thought was that he wasn't ready. He said he is leaning towards annexing now. He will let Randy know soon. With that we will have six properties that will want to annex. This will create the island. I think that is why Lavern and Dillon are here tonight. With Kaup and Dillon and Mike Thobe and Thien and Fishers properties there will be no attachment outside of the Village. **Mayor:** Do you understand what that means? **Diller:** We were waiting on word from the Prosecutor's office. The legalities of what we understand are: Can we create an island? Legally it can be done. Procedurally just about no one wants it but you guys. The County wants no road to be split. It doesn't make sense. We are not in favor of doing it. Originally we said we couldn't. So what happens? What is the process? We found that legally it can be done, but there are ways the Village can stop it. At no point has the village ever forced anyone to annex. The question is does it make sense to allow pockets to be created? You can't have police protection unless they obtain permission from the county that is a decision that will have to be made. **Dillon Schultze:** it is more or less an

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extra \$300 per year in tax money for services we don't need. It isn't too much but we would be paying extra for services we aren't getting. We will not be using water and sewer.

Diller: As I told you, we have not required annexed properties to hook up as long as you have a good working system then you would not need to hook up. The down side is the property doesn't change. You will pay more. Will you need storm water and street levy in that area? Other services that are provided are curbside brush & leaf pick up. Police can respond, they have to get approval now. **Bretz:** It makes no sense to have an island. Once you start it you could have several. **Dillon S:** I understand if it was a half-acre, this is 10 acres. **Diller:** Did you have any idea when you bought this property that this could happen?

Dillon S: The closest we had was an offer from someone else to buy part of our land. **Jane Weitzel:** If we get annexed in we won't have a need for water. **Post:** If you system goes bad you would then be able to hook up. **Jane W:** I already have the tax taken out of my pay but Dillon might not. **Diller:** It depends on where you work. **Mayor:** It is something we don't want to get started. I know no one wants to pay extra in taxes. It is a part of expansion. I am sure when Lavern built his house he had no idea what expansion would come. **Lavern:** It was all farm ground. **Mayor:** The town wants to grow. It cost a lot to put in sanitary in the country now probably \$20 or \$30,000. **Paige Schultze:** Would us not being in town hurt anything?

Thobe: If we allow it there it will be (pointing to map) a circle here, and here and pretty soon it begins to look like swiss cheese. No one wants to see that in a community. **Lavern:** have you talked to the township about maintaining the road? **Diller:** Right now it is a split deal. In talking with engineer they will plow if they are the first one there because they are not going to raise and lower the plow as they come through. It will change who is in charge of the street. Could there be curbs and sidewalks? Certainly, at what point I don't know we have other areas to look at first. Indian Heights was started in 1994 and in 2011 we were out of properties. That is 60-70 homes in 15 years. People are contacting us all the time. We need to stay ahead of the curve. We need to continue to grow. We have tried to handle it as best we can. We are trying to do what is best.

Post: have you had problems? **Lavern W:** They have repaired the tile in front of our house that was put in in the 1960's, it still has issues. **Diller:** We would be responsible to provide a good outlet. **Lavern:** We have had stupid rains this year. **Diller:** We are getting calls from people that live outside our limits asking us if we can fix their water issues, legally we can't do it. With Dave Kaup's project we will try to work with the Township on some of the issues. **Dillon:** The base of our drive always has water, someone could hydroplane. They were going to put in a new receiver but they bypassed it. **Mayor:** We don't have anything else to tell you. **Thobe:** We are not out to get you. **Lavern:** We have been in our own corner of the world for a long time. **Mayor:** Nothing will change. **Thobe:** If EPA comes out and makes changes it could change things for you. **Dillon:** Would we ever have to put in sidewalks? **Diller:** In the current scheme of things it would be at least ten years. There is no way we can take on Sharpsburg Road, it would be a half million dollars. We won't jump into it without planning. We are always looking at streets that need improvements. **Jane Weitzel:** What brings in more tax dollars to the town residential or industrial? **Diller:** Industrial by far. There are a number of people that work outside the village, their tax money goes to the town that they work in. **Dillon:** Could industrial go into that property? The Link property had to be put into housing or agriculture, no Dollar General or School. **Neal S:** Is there enough residential available? **Diller:** Probably not. There is no place available in town now. **Dillon:** So will we be annexed? **Bretz:** You will unless you fight it. **Diller:** We can bring you in without consent. There is a process we would go through. We need to know who is all going to be involved because we don't want to go through it two times. You will get notice of public hearings. Certain parts will state that it is being done because of the greater good of the community. The process isn't initiated by the Village is will be started by Dave Kaup and properties on State Route 49. There will be a Public Hearing, we will have to accept and state what services we will provide. The County has the final say. **Dillon:** Does he have to submit to the county first? **Diller:** One of the requirements is it

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cannot create an island. He has to submit and the township has to approve as well. **Dillon:** So basically we annex now or down the road. **Bretz:** We never made anyone yet, but yes that is probably what will happen. We hope you do. **Jane:** so if I trim my bushes, you will pick it up? **Thobe:** Not if you cut down trees but if you are trimming only. **Mayor:** Think about it, we will stay in touch. **Diller:** Dave Kaup hasn't submitted the paperwork yet. **Dave Bruns:** They are out doing survey work this week. **Diller:** We should have paperwork within the next three weeks. Once I know I will come out and see you to keep informed as best as we can.

VFW: Diller: Choice One is working on some budget numbers. Andy went out and looked at it today.

Industrial Park: The issue with Kaiser getting natural gas has been solved, he will be getting propane. Dan Schoen will be getting electric service to his building; the vault will be by the road. As soon as the weather breaks we will be digging in new service to Dan Schoen. We have fifteen medium digging projects that need done.

Records Commission: We missed our June meeting. We will have the Records Commission meeting at 7:15 pm prior to the August 17th Council Meeting.

Poll Council: Post: Who does John Rammel need to talk to about his water issue? **Diller:** I told him he needs to talk to K & L. When we dig the sanitary in across the road we can look at what we may be able to do.

Mayor: This is the year for re-election. As of July 31st I took my name out of the running for Mayor. I apologize for the late notice but the way they changed the insurance I had no choice. Candidates must have their name in by August 5th.

Council Reviewed Invoices #25349 thru #25366 including then and now certificates, memo expenses and interdepartmental transfers. Wendel made a motion to approve as presented with a second by Garman, vote all yes.

Wendel made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Bretz. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Roger Broerman

Roberta Staugler