

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY SPECIAL COUNCIL

January 3, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Special Council Meeting on January 3, 2017 at 6:00pm at the Village of Fort Recovery Council Meeting Room to conduct regular business.

Roll call was conducted with the following Council members **Present:** Erik Fiely, Cliff Wendel, Dave Garman and Dave Bretz. **Absent:** Al Post and Scott Pearson. **Also Present:** Randy Diller, Erin Minor, Roberta Staugler, PG Jellison, Ed Gebert, Brandon Wyerick, and Nathan Rubbelke.

The Mayor led with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports to Council: Village Administrators Report, December Tax Report

Minutes: Wendel made a motion to approve the December 19, 2016 minutes seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.

Poll Visitors: No Comments

Wendel made a motion to appoint Dave Bretz as Council President for 2017, seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.

Mayor: I would like to make the following 2017 Appointments:

Village Boards and Commissions:

Income Tax: Angie McAbee (~~three year~~) Correction 1/16/2017 Meeting (two year) **Park Board:** Bill Bechtol (five year)

Zoning Board: George Stammen, Scott Zehringer, and Diana Grile (five year)

Design Review Board: Tina Bechtol and Paul McDaniel (two year)

Tree Commission: Linda Zehringer and Janet McCain (three year)

Council Committees:

Finance: Dave Bretz, Dave Garman, and Al Post

Research: Cliff Wendel, Scott Pearson, and Erik Fiely

Police: Dave Garman

Zoning Board Rep: Scott Pearson

Planning Commission Rep: Scott Pearson

Design Review Board Rep: Cliff Wendel

Wendel made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendations to fill the Board and Council Committee positions seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.

No Resolutions or Ordinances.

Erin Minor:

Capital Budget Bill Grant: Randy and Erin attended the boys' basketball game on December 30, 2016 to get input on the color of the tennis and basketball courts, as well as other park projects. They are in the process of reviewing the input received. The results will be presented to the Park Board next Monday.

Local Government Safety Capital Grant: We are finishing up three grant applications: (1) a cruiser for the FRPD; (2) equipment for the Southwest Mercer Fire District; and (3) an ambulance for the St. Henry EMS Squad.

OBWC Grant: We submitted an application for funds to purchase a hydro excavator. We should find out this spring if our application was approved.

Cooper Family Foundation: We hope to find out next month if we were approved for our winter 2016 application in the amount of \$20,000 to be applied to the Community Park Courts Project.

State Route 49 Annexation: The Commissioners approved the annexation petition last Thursday. I am waiting to receive the transcript. Once received, this will begin the statutorily-mandated 60 day waiting period. After that time period is up, we can pass an ordinance accepting the annexation.

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Mayor: Regarding the OBWC grant for the hydro excavator, do you feel we will utilize that equipment? **Diller:** Yes, we will use it not only to excavate, but also to clean out storm grates and manholes. The truck we currently use to do the cleaning needs to be replaced, and if we get a hydro excavator through this grant, the replacement truck we buy will be much less expensive. The OBWC grants are limited in scope. We were the last to qualify for the purchase of a hydro excavator. **Minor:** The point of OBWC grants is to provide funding for equipment that makes work safer and physically less taxing for employees. **Mayor:** I see no trouble; I just thought maybe we could utilize it for something else since there are several others in the community that have this piece of equipment. **Diller:** Several of the local excavators purchased were done so with this grant.

Randy Diller: Project Updates:

Lagoons: The curtains have been ordered. This will be a late winter or early spring project.

Park Recreational Trail: Nothing new to report.

Sharpsburg Road Utilities: Shinn Brothers plan to start soon. I have been in contact with the school; we will be working with them on traffic control.

William Street: Choice One was in town today working on the plans for the William Street Reconstruction Project.

Utility Improvements We have the NPDES permit ready to submit as soon as the check is cut.

EPA Water Inspection: Nothing major. They have requested that we extend the well casing above the surrounding ground elevation. We are waiting on the written report.

Planning Commission Meeting: We will be meeting January 11th at 7:00pm to review several matters, including the zoning designation for three annexations.

Bretz: Did EPA say anything about drilling a new well? **Diller:** No. We have two working wells that we can pump 350 gallons per minute (GPM). We are currently pumping 260 GPM with no problems. We have been able to pump at this rate with no drawdown on the water table; we are in good shape. I am in the process of reviewing our utility rates. I will be making recommendations on utility rate changes in the next month or so.

Minor: I belong to the Ohio Municipal Attorneys Association. Members share their insights with one another on issues affecting municipalities. Recently, a series of emails were exchanged by members who are discussing income tax increases. Those communities are already at 2.0% or 2.5%. I feel fortunate that we have been able to do what we have with our 1.0% tax rate.

Community input on parks: Minor stated that during the request for input from residents, they were asked to rank a list of park projects: (1) new entrance signage for our parks and pool; (2) lights for diamond #3 at Community Park; (3) pool improvements; and (4) a three-season shelter house. People were asked to rank the projects in order of importance to them. From the replies that we've received thus far, the pool was ranked first. We are looking at some improvements, such as new fencing around the pool. **Bretz:** Should we start putting money aside for a new pool? **Diller:** I am going to be asking Council that question. We have two things that I feel we should begin to plan for – a new water plant and a new pool. Our water plant is in good shape right now and running better than it did 25 years ago. We hope to get another fifteen years out of it as long as EPA does not mandate any significant changes.

Poll Council: Bretz: Did we have a Santa house this year? **Diller:** We did not. The Fort Recovery Merchants Association is looking into what to do next year. The building they were using was removed and no plans for a replacement were made.

Council reviewed invoices #026574 to #026607 and memo expense #201662-201663. Wendel made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes.

Wendel made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Fiely. Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

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Mayor Dave Kaup

Roberta Staugler