

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY SPECIAL COUNCIL

January 16,

2017

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on January 16, 2017 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:** Erik Fiely, Cliff Wendel, Al Post, Dave Garman, Scott Pearson and Dave Bretz. **Also Present:** Randy Diller, Erin Minor, Roberta Staugler, PG Jellison, Brandon Wyerick, Neal Spencer, Jake Heitkamp, Bo and Ryan Thien, Nathan & Doug Weigel, Ray Cooney and Luke Burkhardt.

The Mayor led with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports to Council: Village Administrators Report, December Finance and Police Reports

Minutes: Fiely made a motion to approve the January 3, 2017 minutes with a correction to the term of Angie McAbee from (three year) to (two year); this was seconded by Wendel Vote all yes.

Poll Visitors: Boy Scouts were present to observe the Council Meeting. Ryan Thien spoke about the recent Ohio EPA water plant inspection. We have a few violations that we need to correct: (1) replacement of the underground caustic soda tank (which is on our 5-year plan); (2) replacement of the filter media (which was already on our to-do list for this year); and (3) replacement of the CO₂ tank (which was also on our to-do list for this year). I've talked to Airgas, our CO₂ supplier, and they are going to be getting us a new tank soon. **Diller:** We have talked about the caustic soda tank in past meetings. We were planning on replacing it in the next five years. We do not feel delaying the replacement will affect the quality of our water. **Thien:** We were purchasing our Caustic at 50% concentration, then diluting it with water. We have switched to purchasing it at 25% concentration (and we don't add any water), which has been working great.

RESOLUTION 2017-01 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2017 APPROPRIATIONS. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Garman. Vote all yes. Fiely made a motion to pass the resolution seconded by Pearson. Vote all yes.

ORDINANCE 2017-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2016-18 Minor: We are requesting an amendment to our Wage Ordinance to create a \$250 uniform allowance for our part-time police officer. **Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Garman. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Fiely made a motion to pass the ordinance seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes by roll call vote.**

ORDINANCE 2017-02 AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE VILLAGE TO A 5.101 ACRE TERRITORY PROPOSED FOR ANNEXATION TO THE VILLAGE Minor: Dave Jutte has requested that all of the property owned by David and Travis D. Jutte be annexed into the Village of Fort Recovery. **Diller:** This was approved by the Planning Commission. We will run the utilities for the Jutte properties so that properties on Wabash Road may be added later if needed. Randy also spoke with Recovery Township officials as a courtesy (because the right of way in front of Mandy Muhlenkamp's house is located in the Township and is part of the territory proposed for annexation); they thought the right of way was already in the Village limits, as the Village has been taking care of that part of First Street. Township officials were fine with the annexation of the right of way. **Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Garman. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Fiely made a motion to pass the ordinance seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes by roll call vote**

Erin Minor: Capital Budget Bill Grant: We are working on final elevation and design issues for the courts project. **Diller:** Choice One met with us last week to review the plans and specs.

Local Government Safety Capital Grant: We have finished 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. We will find out late spring if we are awarded funds.

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Nature Works Grant: Deadline for the application is May 1st. The Park Board decided we should apply for funding to replace the fencing around the pool. We will get quotes.

Jutte Annexation: The petition was filed last Friday. We sent notices to the adjoining property owners. We expect the Commissioners to grant the petition on February 7th.

Park Project Community Input: The last few weeks we have been conducting surveys on the color of the basketball and tennis courts that will be installed at Community Park this Spring, as well as the priority of proposed park projects. We posted links to electronic surveys on Facebook. We got hard copy survey responses at two basketball games and at the library. The responses (totaling 470) on the courts color were: 1st = purple; 2nd = green; 3rd = blue; and 4th = brown. We asked folks to rank four proposed park projects based on their order of importance. The results (we received 167 responses) were as follows: 1st = pool improvements; 2nd = three-season shelter house; 3rd = lights at diamond; and 4th = new entrance signage for our parks and pool. In addition, we asked folks to tell us what other park projects they would like to see. We received 111 responses. Extending the recreational trail got the most votes, followed by paving the parking lot at Fort Site, installing a second diamond at Fort Site, adding rubber safety surfacing to the playground southwest of the diamond at Fort Site, creating a dog park, and installing shuffleboard courts. **Pearson:** Where would we go with the Rec Trail? **Diller:** From Community Park to the high school baseball diamond, to Ambassador Park, Fort Site Park, and back to Community Park. This has received positive feedback. We could connect one park to the other by crossing the highway, possibly a culvert under the highway. **Mayor:** If the courts are purple, what would the outside color be? **Minor:** Green would be the likely color. **Pearson:** I noticed that there is water crossing the rec trail near the batting cages. **Diller:** We have three areas where we've noticed some drainage issues. We will fix them this spring. **Bretz:** Can we put in a catch basin? **Diller:** No there is no place to tile it to.

Randy Diller: Project Updates: Lagoons: The curtains have been ordered for the lagoons.

Park Recreational Trail: Nothing new to report.

Sharpsburg Road Utilities: Randy talked to Shinn Brothers. Their estimated starting date is mid-February.

William Street: Randy met with Choice One. The preliminary layout called for a 41' wide street. This would require us to cut down several large trees. It would allow for two parking lanes at 13' each. Parking lanes are typically not wider than 10'. We are considering options to reduce the size of the street. We will meet with Justin Firks and come back with ideas to consider. Choice One suggested parking on one side of the street only. Maybe we don't need parking on both sides, as we only have five home football games a year.

Utility Improvements: Our application for our NPDES permit has been submitted.

Utility Rates: A worksheet with suggested utility rate adjustments was given to Council for review to get the discussion going. We have not adjusted our water rates since 2007. We added sewer debt service fees in 2010 to help pay off the sewer separation project loans. We have held back on rate increases. Expenses, however, have increased. We need to cover our expenses with revenue. We will never be able to cover system improvements with existing rates. Randy would like to propose an ordinance with an escalator clause for the next six years. Tap fees have not changed since I started working for the village. We also need to consider what to do for out-of-town users. We do not accept new out-of-town users anymore, unless they don't have an attachment point to the Village. Our turn off/on fee is \$10. **Bretz:** Didn't we talk about raising the out-of-corp rates more? **Diller:** We are considering rate increases for out-of-town users. To calculate estimated additional income I used minimum bills now per month, average residential monthly minimum and overage bills. I also took out the 20 largest users including CW Egg. I do not want any decisions tonight. **Garman:** What are loan & grand funding based on? **Diller:** Typically a percentage of the median household income will be compared to the utility rates. We

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would have to triple our rates to qualify for some funding. USDA applies fewer points for loan and grant applications if your utility rates are low; they desire low and moderate income loans.

Parks: I am working with Choice One on the plans and specs for the Courts Project. Soon we will be working on the NatureWorks playground project. Erin and Randy will begin purchasing the equipment and lining up a vendor for the safety surfacing. The block hasn't been put up yet for the restrooms due to the weather. We are also working on the signage for the Pollinator Garden.

Park Board: The board approved hiring an additional individual for the months of April – October to assist with weed whipping and diamond prep. Baseball begins earlier in the year and having Jerry prep the diamonds all by himself in May becomes a big issue, also covering the weed whipping. It will be a part time position. If you know of anyone over 16 that could help, please let me know.

Planning Commission: The Board met last week. They approved the annexation requests for Sharpsburg Road, State Route 49, and the Jutte properties. In addition, the Board approved the preliminary plat for Indian Hill Estates. The annexation of the State Route 49 properties will allow us to reduce the speed limit to 35 mph from the Industrial Park to the existing corporation sign by the Brunswick property. **Bretz:** Will we get new speed limit signs? **Diller:** Yes.

The Planning Commission also approved the Jutte Preliminary Plat. Dave will split up the four acres that he owns into two lots. He will be selling the back lot to Matt. The request meets our requirements for a minor subdivision. **Bretz:** Do they need water and sewage? **Diller:** Yes, we plan to run it to Wabash Road on the North East side from the corner of First Street south. This will allow us to get outlets for possible other properties down the road. We will bore the waterline under the river and the railroad and eventually create a loop.

Cemetery Board: We are working on a replacement member.

Important Dates: The next Council meeting will be February 6th. The Community Club Fish Fry will be this Saturday from 4-8pm. The Chamber Awards Banquet will be Sunday March 12th, where the Mayor will be giving out a Community Service Award.

Poll Council: Nothing to report.

Council reviewed invoices #026629 to #026641 including then and now certificates, inter-departmental transfers and memo expense #201701 to #201704. Wendel made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.

Wendel made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Pearson. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Mayor Dave Kaup

Roberta Staugler