

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO 10148

Held

April 2020

20

CALL TO ORDER: President Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on April 20, 2020 at 7:30 pm via Zoom VTC due to the COVID-19 restrictions to conduct regular business.

Roll call was conducted with the following Council members Present via Zoom: Erik Fiely, Cliff Wendel, Luke Knapke, Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson and Al Post.

Also Present: Randy Diller, Roberta Staugler, Erin Abels, Jared Laux, Neal Spencer, Leslie Gartrel, Jeff Overholser and Jake Knapke via Zoom.

The Pledge and prayer were dismissed for the VTC Zoom meeting.

Reports to Council: VA Report, March Police, Tax and Finance Report.

Minutes: Wendel made a motion to approve the March 16, 2020 minutes Knapke seconded the motion. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

Mayor Not much to report, I have been receiving lots of emails from the health dept. No new cases of COVID-19 in the last 7 days, possibly one today. So, one week with no new cases in the county. They are talking a lot about opening and how it is going to work.

Amanda: The March Tax Report is in Dropbox

Chief: The stats are in Dropbox. The police dept is staying away from each other as much as possible. Jared is covering Saturday mornings. We purchased 2 reusable masks for each of the village employees. We have had the portable alarm for ten years and it was due for an update. The new flashing solar speed limit signs are slowly working. Mayor: I noticed at night the one on Wayne wasn't working. Laux: It was going out; it needs to be switched I will get it adjusted the right way. Mayor: I have never seen it at night. Laux: I had it shut off for 2 or 3 days to get the battery charged up. Pearson: I noticed with the traffic being down the truckers are cutting thru down town. Laux: I will check it out. I am looking into OH school threat assessment online training. The forum is to participate in a school-based threat. At 8:20 tonight for 20 minutes everyone is to turn on lights for Seniors; they will be parading around town. Diller: I would like to turn on the new diamond lights tonight. Sharpsburg Rd and S Wayne still have beacon lights on. We have not received the OK from ODOT to install on the West side of speed limit to draw people's attention. They are doing assessment on the East side of town where they want a speed study on the 35 mpg until out of town. It is not 35mph until you get to Steve Diller's house. It was their idea to move it out. We will have it put up there when okayed. Cliff: In regard to face masks and PPE is there anything we need for village police and water departments? Diller: We have enough gloves and they have masks, and safety glasses, should have pretty much what we need we will talk later about COVID.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

RES 2020-06: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT TO PROCEED WITH 2.5 MILL GENERAL EXPENSE LEVY RENEWAL. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Post made a motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Pearson. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

RES 2020-07: A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER \$90,000 FROM GENERAL FUND TO WATER IMPROVEMENT FUND. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Post made a motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

RES 2020-08: A RESOLUTION AMENDING 2020 APPROPRIATIONS. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

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Post made a motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

Staugler: The audit information has been compiled and is awaiting review, we expect a report in June. The March Bank Reconciliation was presented for approval.

Erin Abels: Nothing new to report.

Diller: Kate will be finalizing the Capital Budget Grant as it is 100 % completed, final draw has been submitted for payment.

Cooper Farm: The pipe is in the ground ready for connection to the water line. Pressure testing and bacteria and manhole vacuum testing is ready to be done. We will be ready when Coopers are ready. The water line is now extended all the way out to the highway. We have funded our portion, there will be a little left to pay when the final bills come in.

Broadway Street: Nothing new from the standpoint of grants. The Daily Standard published some public notices about the required environmental. Jared's office is moving forward hoping to receive final approval in July. Work from DP&L and Frontier has been completed, with the exception of a pole to be moved by Frontier. Dominion will relocate the gas line from Wayne St to First St.

Aeration: We are at a standstill. As soon as the stay-at-home order is lifted or it becomes a true emergency; it is not now considered an emergency as we are not violating any testing. We will be ready to go; they have a guy coming out to measure all the sludge. The idea is not only to give us longer lagoon life but to also reduce the sludge.

All other utility projects are on hold as they take more than one guy to complete.

Ohio History Connection They are working on final design of monument lights. This is at no cost to the village; Randy is just helping facilitate the project.

Zoning: We are ready but will not have a planning commission meeting until a later date due to meeting restrictions.

Ball Diamonds: The lights are installed, we hope they can use them this year, if not they are ready for next year.

Loans: We received notice from OPWC which has funded various loan projects for us. They are not accepting any payments for July. We cannot make a payment; it is meant to lessen the impact to municipals. We have \$30,000 funded by General, \$6,000 from Sewer Levy and \$13,000 from Sewer User Fees. At the end of the year they will let us make the extra payment if we choose. We see no reason to extend the ones funded by Sewer User Fee and Sewer Levy funds. We will probably make a double payment in November on those. The \$30,000 from General we can save if we need to, it is not as critical and will add no cost to push back the payment as it is a zero percent loan.

Street Survey: Randy's recommendation at this time is to not resurface/overlay streets due to uncertainty, we don't know the financial impact from COVID-19. In the meantime, Randy was contacted by the Mercer Co Engineer; Gibson Township would like to put a surface on Flaler Road. Do we want to? They use chip-seal over top, asphalt emulsion, does give it a more paved look, cuts down on dust and loose stone. Our portion to do Flaler is \$5,000; Randy gave him ok to do our portion which is a little less than half the project. While they are here, we can do same type of treatment on Sharpsburg Rd. I don't think we should do it anywhere we have curbs and sidewalk. The cost to do Sharpsburg Road chip-seal, fog seal and centerline striping would be \$11,850. Last year we were looking at \$82,000 to overlay Sharpsburg Road. He thinks we can buy 4 or 5 years if need to do somewhere down the road. Pearson: Will they fix the bad spots? Diller: Yes, we would do that before they come.

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Post: Will they put it on the right away? Diller: Yes, they follow each other up. That is one of those things they like to have the road closed for a couple of days. Knapke: Have you considered restricting some of the semi-truck traffic down Sharpsburg Rd? Diller: Now it is the route for trucks. Honestly it has done very well for itself over last few years. The County did it 10 years ago. Laux: Will the township address the homeowner where flooding occurs? Diller: Only if we bring it to their attention. Mayor: Flaler road needs some kind of catch basin or something and then on other end we might as well dig up. Diller: The north end? There is a lot of water. Kaup: A lot of people drive down that road, when it freezes it's pretty slick. Diller: My intention is to meet with the township trustees later this summer. Mayor: I would be happy to go with you. Diller: Do we want to go ahead? Schmitz: What is our expectation on length of time? Diller: It depends on the traffic. Up by the dairy queen it is in pretty good shape. Wendel: So, they will do an emulsion, gravel and then then another coat of emulsion so it looks like a paved job? Looks like it's not extremely expensive but adds life. Diller: Ok, I will give them ok to do it.

Sidewalk: Last December Precision Concrete Cutting preformed a survey of our sidewalks and listed 420 trip hazards. This company uses saw cut to leave a planar slope with a smooth finish when they are done. They won't do anything more than 50% of the depth; we know there are places where it won't work. We won't address every trip hazard. It is estimated at \$32,500. to fix 420 hazards. We will not have some because of timing, if it will be on street project list like some on Broadway. If it is a high dollar number, we could use assessments, if we need to go thru that process, it would require certified mail which cost \$4.20 and the average cost of the repair is about \$75, we would have \$6 -\$7 in notices. If we split the project up the price will go up due to them having to make another trip. Our current sidewalk maintenance does not work well for us, one option is that the village pay and get as many as we can completed. The plus side we would get the best job done the quickest which would give a lot more life on what we have. Knowing the next time, we do this we won't have 350 repairs to make. The down side, a little inequality, the worse ones we can't do, or do we say alright we cut the ones we could and then fix the others. If we are doing it by quadrants, we could focus on 10 or 15, move forward every 4 years do a quadrant but now to get ahead it will be a huge undertaking. It does not address how do we handle the sections where a utility dropped and now it sunk their sidewalk or should we, the village, take care of it? Do we make them because it is now your responsibility? My sidewalk is 13 years old; do we take responsibility forever? Mayor: I don't think we can do that. It is worse when the culvert does not move but the sidewalk does, everyone along a culvert has to pay. Diller: I have started gathering some other communities' policies. It is a mixed bag, some take care of it all, others say it is 100% your sidewalk your responsibility. I will take input from council as to what you want to do. It is open for discussion.

Mayor: I would think that the towns that pay for everything do it with a tax or something. They access 100% but they do the repairs? If you are the original owner are all repairs made by the village? Diller: If a section needs popped out, they just do it. They don't have that many, his guys go out and pop it out, it saves headaches and problems. That is not normal, most other towns assess the cost, they also have a maintenance program and it is not hard to stay ahead of it. It is a little inequality, when some have to pay and others do not. Mayor: If sidewalk policy is rewritten and instead of spending \$32,000 on the entire village, we break it into quads, and have them come in and instead of doing 100% we get one fourth done and come in the following year and so on. Diller: We would have two different contracts then. Mayor: It will give the homeowner the ability to replace their own sidewalk. Diller: It also drags it out, but gives them a reasonable time to do their own. Mayor: If the saw guy comes every year, they would have to have it replaced by that time. Diller: There will always be some that want to do it. Mayor: I don't think we can pay to do everyone's sidewalk. Diller: Ideally, if run properly, they would have been told the price and will be identified. Mayor: You will give the layout and specs to the owner and they must pay for replacement, we pay for cutting? Diller: If we do them all now, we would be done. This is the one way to get to a point where we are not overwhelmed in doing assessments on a large number of repairs at one time. If we did it that way, we would have to come up with a method that works. Mayor: Why? I feel we can do assessments and have 4 years to get around. Diller: The cost will go

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up. It is not fair that some get the advantage. It is the reason we have tried to maintain and try to be consistent. We have done the same on every street project we have done. I would like to keep going but I want to try to catch up. Mayor: Can council think it over the next 2 weeks? Diller: Give me to May 1st. If you say paying it is not right, we can back it. Post: I am ok with paying it. It's not fair, I won't benefit, I just think we need to get it fixed. Pearson: I think the same thing, we don't have a current policy. Diller: We do it is just not workable. We have never enforced it. Pearson: If we pay the \$32,000 how much will we have in replacements? Diller: I don't know, I will check because they are not all the same. Pearson: I don't disagree with the Mayor either. Mayor: I'm just saying if I break it down, it is \$10,000 per year to help with the first loop around town; Schmitz: I like the idea, I don't know about the whole \$32,000. I noticed on my report the one in front of my house, how many of those are on the report? Diller: Yours is a good example, I didn't see any paint on your sidewalk, I figured it was not on the report. There are some right across the street. Greg: How many are on there? 75? I like the Mayor's idea, do a little every year. Diller: If we do a quad, we take care of everything. Schmitz: First off and then from there on it is theirs. I don't know about replacements. I know mine is a little different, the tree is the towns, the sidewalk is the homeowners. Diller: Yes, it would require the homeowner to pay. Diller: If it is already in there why would the town pay. Mayor: Homeowner would pay for the replacement, we pay for the saw, and we go a section at a time all the way around until we are all done. Diller: We pay for saw, but not replace? Mayor: Someone will need 100 and the next will need 4. It is still my thought if we don't have a curb, I don't know how you make someone replace that. Diller: We have a prorated policy, if it needs redone in 3 years, we will pay. Mayor: I still think it's a good idea. Knapke: The \$32,000 surprised me, it was lower than I anticipated. I think we should do it all and then we are done. Diller: If we do it all we are done. Wendel: I think if we do it in quads, and we have not done this in how many years, how long, forever? I think we assess it to everyone but delay it a year, inform them then wait and do the entire town. Mayor: I would pay for saw, not replace. The homeowners have known it is not in good shape, they won't replace it unless the village says they must replace it. Give them 12 months, in 2021, but assess entire amount. As of now it looks like it will cost \$200 to replace 16' by yourself by our specs and we will replace for you at \$XX per foot. Fiely: I Like the idea of dragging it out, not opposed to paying for it all in one shot; 4 years, not sure what you do with quads and next year not bad, now I have to pay for it and have time to figure out how. If you do it all at once, pay in one year, then it is your baby. This year probably not best year for it, but something we can look at. Post: The replacement should be paid by the homeowner. Diller: What I am hearing is that there are probably a lot of unknowns, we pay saw cut, his is but mine is not paid for. Not a great way to answer. If I am hearing correctly, maybe we back off of estimates right now, send letters to everyone we have identified and starting in 2021 start saw maintenance. If you want to do it between now and then, we will be around next year. It would take 4 or 5 years. Mayor: I like Cliffs idea, if we do entire town 2021, quad 2022, go back one more, or two, to me that is where people will get mad. Wendel: We do every 4 years, then getting purchasing power for someone doing at a lower price. Diller: It is the law if we assess, we must inform them by certified mail or hand deliver. If we do send out 350 notices it represents an overwhelming amount of work. No way I can spend a month getting paperwork ready. To do it by law is why our policy is so hard to use. Mayor: I think we need to start from the beginning. Certain people will be real upset, I think every homeowner knows it is their responsibility, and they know their sidewalks not in good shape. I think 1/2" is pretty little raised to 3/4" would eliminate some of the 420 pretty easy. Diller: Our biggest sidewalk claim was barely 1/2" raised. Someone tripped and broke their arm. We were exempt, but paid medical. I am ok with pushing it back; I will continue to review. Some will be happy, some not. If we do assess the project, we are required to repair the ground. Let's table it, I will tell Precision Concrete we will not be doing any cutting, based on our current variables including COVID-19. I would rather we get it ready. I will put together a letter to go out to residents.

COVID 19: We are still closed at the town hall. We are here working every day and trying to do our best at physical distancing, probably touching things not clean, but we are doing the best we can. Jared is keeping the police separated as much as possible. Jerry and Paul work separately. Water Department: I am pushing those guys to stay apart as much as

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possible. They know what they need to do, if both are there, they do different things. We are holding off on projects that take more than one person to do, if it must be fixed, they will put masks on to do it. You will notice there are barrels on fire hydrants, those will take 3 guys to repair. Based on emergency FCRA as a village we are required to give additional 80 hours of sick time. There are six uses where those hours kick in. Another community did a resolution. We reached out to the auditor they said to consult your attorney. Erin's statement was that federal law trumps anything we do. We will document it and have Erin email her opinion and put it in the payroll file to cover it.

Utility billing: Per a change in law there will be no on/off fees charged. We have taken it a step further, if it is a small business, we will work directly with them, we won't waive all fees, but if they need to delay payments, we will go along and work out a repayment program. We will contact them directly through water bills and keep an eye on anyone showing up on the delinquent list and be as lenient as we possibly can be, certainly for small business owners.

Other things we are going to do: The Mayor will proclaim "Support your local small business day" in Fort Recovery. With the restaurants and shops being closed, it will be a push for people in Fort Recovery to on one day buy meals out, flowers, all those types of things. April 30th is the date set up; we don't know how many of the businesses will be able to be open. We have received a lot of good feedback from the businesses. Conner did a post on Fort Recover Chamber and the Retail Merchants pages on what they are doing differently. Look at FRChamber.org for more information.

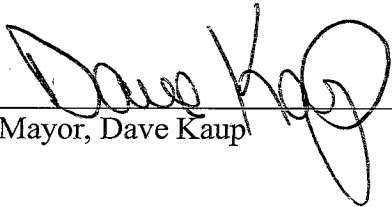
Park and Pool: Unfortunately, there is not a lot we can do. I will put out a statement; we will not kick a family out of the shelters, it better only be the people in your house sitting there. We will not allow anyone to make new reservations. The playground, tennis and pickleball courts are closed. As soon as the governor or health department gives us ok, we will open up. We encourage everyone to use the trail. It is incredible how many people are using it. **Pool:** Obviously it is totally up in the air, we will be prepared for Memorial Day, but we are stopping short of adding water or chlorine. It will be clean and ready to put water in. It takes about a week to fill and add chlorine. We will go from the health departments lead. We will not sell any tickets. The swim team is scheduled subject to us being open. No Pool parties are scheduled at this time. We are getting questions, so a statement will be put out.

Important Dates: Nothing to report. We are doing the spring cleanup on May 2nd beginning at 5am. Residents need to follow the rules. Anything not out by 5am will not be picked up. The next meeting will be May 4th, we could meet at the pavilion, if not we will use this Zoom venue.

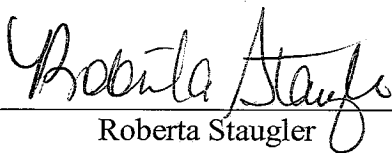
Poll Council: Post: Do we have something in place for blowing grass clipping into the curb or street? Jared: If you tell me who it is, I will talk to them. Fiely: FRYSO is meeting tonight. OHSA will have an announcement tomorrow, FRYSO will follow their instruction.

Council reviewed invoices #29353 to #29424 including then and now certificates, inter-departmental transfers and memo expense 200022 to 200031. Wendel made a motion to approve as presented, this was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.

Schmitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Fiely. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.



Mayor, Dave Kaup



Roberta Staugler