

Regular Council Meeting
04/11/2019
7:00 PM
Municipal Building

Gary Bauer, Don Gephart, Chad Hollon, Reilly Hopkins, and Richard Simpson were present. Mayor John Carman presided over the meeting.

HOLLON/HOPKINS: Motion to excuse Cindy Sutton from meeting. All voted yea.

Mayor listed the following changes to agenda: 1) Brent Ball from Rumpke, scheduled guest speaker, would not be present due to an emergency; 2) Ordinance 2019.013 to be stricken under Old Business.

HOLLON/BAUER: Motion to accept agenda with listed changes. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 03/28/19 were presented to Council. Fiscal Officer noted Dennis Stanforth's former pay should be changed to \$11.41/hour on the drafted minutes.

HOLLON/BAUER: Motion to approve minutes from 03/28/19 with noted change. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented to Council. Fiscal Officer requested a Parks invoice for Luke Faulkner be added to the bills list (labor for concrete bleacher slabs at the Memorial Park, \$2,400).

HOLLON/SIMPSON: Motion to approve bills with requested change (Faulkner added). Roll call was made. All voted yea.

GUEST SPEAKERS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reilly stated that Safety and Service did not meet and therefore had no report.

Mayor read Cindy's report from the last Finance Committee Meeting minutes. He stated the committee would recommend the Fiscal Officer's computer be updated, audit fees be charged per account based on %, elevator situation was discussed (certificate of liability was finally received from American Elevators) and possible conversation on closing the elevator permanently, involving moving the American Legion to Council Chambers and Council Meetings to the Municipal Auditorium, or as an alternative, try to share total elevator maintenance and repair cost with those who hold meetings on the second floor. Also discussed was possible earnings tax for streets only or for police only.

Planning/Zoning Meeting on the 10th discussed Gary Monds' storage unit. It was determined to file an Application of Zoning to Board of Appeals. Mayor will organize to set up said meeting. Additionally, there was discussion of political signs, which would be referred to Solicitor for advisement.

Reilly thanked Mayor for handling the Monds' situation. Mayor stated it was in the process of being resolved.

OLD BUSINESS

Chad inquired about updates regarding the widening of Village parking lot and alley closure next to Ron's Place. Mayor answered stating Wayne would address updates during his report.

Richard stated the American Legion had discussed moving to the Council Chambers and had viewed the room during a recent meeting.

Andrew stated as long as the Municipal Building's second floor was being used for storage only, the elevator could be closed to the public and used as freight elevator only. If any meetings were being held up there, the elevator must remain open to be compliant. Discussion ensued about the possibility of closing the elevator to the public not lowering overall maintenance cost. Don stated he couldn't see the point in closing the elevator to the public if the cost would remain an issue. Mayor stated no decision would be made at this meeting. Chad restated that maybe the upstairs organizations could assist in paying for the elevator to remain open and for regular maintenance costs. Richard stated that the American Legion was still interested in moving to the Council Chambers if possible.

Mayor stated Reilly had reached out to County Commissioners and the Commissioners would be holding a joint meeting at the 5/9/19 Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Reinbolt requested an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

GEPHART/HOLLON: Motion to recess to executive session pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(3) for the sole purpose of conferencing with attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action inviting the Mayor and Solicitor. Roll call was made. All voted yea. Council recessed at 7:19 PM.

Roll call was made. Council resumed at 7:53 PM. No action was taken.

Chad requested revisiting the Committee Reports section of the meeting, specifically the Finance Committee's recommendation to approve a new Fiscal Officer computer.

HOLLON/GEPHART: Motion to approve purchase of new Fiscal Officer computer not to exceed \$1,750. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

STREET

Wayne Clifton reported department still working on getting salt bids. Many potholes have been repaired recently and installed signs at Senior Citizens' parking lot for no tractor parking. He mentioned Main Street needing repairs again, and Mayor replied he had put a call in regarding the matter, but hadn't received a return call. Wayne inquired about earnings tax. Andrew stated that deadline to put on ballot 90 days prior to election. Wayne stated that if we didn't have money next year, the village would have to eat the repairs. Chad stated there must be something done to fund the Village. Reilly stated the only way he would vote for it is if 100% went to the Street Department. Mayor stated soon the Village would be known as "Blanchester, the Quilt Town" due to the abundant street patches. Andrew advised the first step would be to have a drafted ordinance to review with language stating all tax would go toward street repairs. An attending resident stated that the earnings tax had not passed 7 times, it would not pass again and inquired instead about a levy. Mayor stated the proposed levy would not bring in enough money to fund repairing the streets. Another resident stated a levy would be placed on the homeowners in addition to the other property taxes being paid and announced the property owners were already paying enough. Council common consent was for Andrew to draft 1% income tax ordinance, 100% to go to Street Department.

Leaf collection and bagging leaves was discussed. Bag leaves and put on street for pickup. Andrew said he wasn't sure it had to be by ordinance, but would be happy to draft one if needed.

Wayne stated he wanted to widen the Village parking lot and close the alleyway next to Ron's Place as cheaply as possible.

PARKS

Tom stated Parks would like to request supplemental appropriations for capital outlay of \$20,000 and \$1,500 for Curless Recreation Fund in order to purchase supply boxes for the ballfields. They would also like to move future regular Parks meetings to 7:30 PM due to scheduling conflicts with board members.

BPA

Ram Reddy provided an update on Reservoir 3 project. He spoke about the proposed billing portal online for customers and confirmed approval to proceed by the BPA Board. He also gave an update regarding new VIP software for billing. He stated he had some wage adjustment requests for executive session later in the meeting. Reilly requested that anytime wage increase recommendations for were to be raised, Council be notified at least a week in advance to consider the recommendations.

SOLICITOR

None.

FISCAL OFFICE

Jewelie Casteel presented adjustments to Council.

ADJUSTMENTS 04/11/2019

FUND/DEPT	UAN ACCT #	FUND
TOTAL GEN FUND		\$0.00
SEWER CAPITAL OUTLAY	5201-541-500	\$ (5,000.00)
SEWER OTHER-UTILITIES (LANDS/BLDGS)	5201-549-319-0010	\$ 5,000.00
PARKS CAPITAL OUTLAY	2042-310-500	\$ 20,000.00
CURLLESS FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY	2041-310-500	\$ 1,500.00
TOTAL OTHER		\$21,500.00
TOTAL GEN FUND+OTHER		\$21,500.00

HOLLON/SIMPSON: Motion to approve adjustments as presented. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Fiscal Officer stated that state auditors had been onsite previously in the week and had completed the onsite portion for the 2017-2018 audit. She speculated one reason for significantly decreased time onsite was due to the UAN software and the ability of the auditors to view financial transactions remotely. Auditing would continue remotely and the Village would be notified at a later date of any audit conclusions. The recent Ohio Police and Fire audit would be released to public as of today's date. This 2017 P&F audit was deemed by state auditors to be "accurate and complete."

Fiscal Officer explained the online payment portal process for BPA billing purposes. She reported that she and Kim Leath had held a conference call with Invoice Cloud representative, Chuck Layman, who had answered detailed questions regarding their services. Fiscal Officer said the Fiscal Officer should not solely make the decision to allow the online payment portal process to be connected to the Village's checking account and requested Council make the decision if so desired to move forward with implementation.

BAUER/HOLLON: Motion to move forward with Invoice Cloud online billing implementation. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

MAYOR

Mayor Carman shared the Village's Natural Gas aggregation certificate for 2 years renewal and a BWC certificate for an accident-free season for Village employees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wayne Clifton, 215 South Broadway, expressed disappointment Sav-A-Lot had closed, and asked Council if there was anything that could have prevented it. Mayor stated he had met with Sav-A-Lot's owner who stated Blanchester simply did not produce an adequate revenue stream, so the decision was made to close. He assured the Mayor that the store was not profitable enough to remain open for business.

James Constable, 716 Cherry Street, gave a petition to Mayor, Solicitor and Fiscal Officer to be filed with Village Clerk to place the issue of Village Administrator on the November 2019 ballot. This petition declares the elimination of the BPA Clerk, BPA Director and the BPA Board.

BAUER/HOLLON: Motion to recess to executive session pursuant to 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official inviting Solicitor, Mayor and BPA Director. Roll call was made. Recessed at 8:36PM.

Roll call was made. Council resumed at 8:57PM.

GEPHART/BAUER: Motion to accept recommendation from BPA Board for step raises for Kim Leath A-3-H to A-3-I and Robin Hillard from A-4-H to A-4-I pay period beginning 04/14/19 (Exhibit A). Roll call was made. Bauer, Gephart, Hollon, Simpson voted yea; Hopkins abstained.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to accept recommendation from BPA Board for step raise for Michael Hutchinson from W-4-G to W-4-I pay period beginning 04/14/19 (Exhibit A). Roll call was made. All voted yea.

BAUER/GEPHART: Motion to Take Jeff Hurst off probation and move to step B pay period beginning 04/14/19. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

BAUER/HOLLON: Motion to approve BPA reference pay scale changes as follows: Electric E-1-A change amount to \$23.16 and Water Apprentice W-4-I \$16.70 (Exhibit B).

Joshua Parks stated he understood that Sav-A-Lot closed for lack of roof repairs and BPA bills were too high.

GEPHART/HOPKINS: Motion to adjourn. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Approved: April 25, 2019

Mayor: John M Carman

Attest: Julie Castel

Exhibit A

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 11, 2019
To: The Honorable Mayor and the Village Council
From: The Trustees of the Board of Public Affairs
Subject: Employee Pay Raises

At the April 4, 2019 meeting, the Board of Trustees of Public Affairs (BPA) discussed and voted to recommend the Council to approve the following employees for a pay raise as shown below:

- Kimberly Leath from step: A-3-H to A-3-I
- Robin Hillard from step: A-4-H to A-4-I
- Michael Hutchinson W-4-G to W-4-I

With Council's approval, these pay raises will become effective next first full pay period in April 2019.

Respectfully,

Board of Public Affairs

EXHIBIT B

VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
 SALARY / WAGE SCALE
 BI-WEEKLY PAY PERIODS
 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14, 2014

TITLE	CODE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
UTILITIES DIRECTOR	A-1 P.P.	\$2,707.98	\$2,871.18	\$3,043.37	\$3,225.71	\$3,420.43	\$3,625.27	\$3,842.48	\$4,072.09	\$4,316.42	\$4,549.93	\$5,092.43	\$5,347.05	\$5,614.40	\$5,895.12
BUSINESS MGR/CLERK	A-2 P.P.	\$900.00	\$1,150.10	\$1,281.50	\$1,319.90	\$1,385.95	\$1,434.50	\$1,506.25	\$1,581.60	\$1,660.68	\$1,740.04	\$1,824.45	\$1,911.12	\$2,006.78	\$2,108.08
ASST. CLERK	A-3 HR	\$13.39	\$14.03	\$14.88	\$15.66	\$16.43	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$19.03	\$19.95	\$20.55	\$21.30	\$22.05	\$22.85	\$23.65
OFFICE STAFF	A-4 HR	\$11.85	\$12.44	\$13.06	\$13.72	\$14.40	\$15.12	\$15.88	\$16.65	\$17.50	\$18.05	\$18.60	\$19.20	\$19.70	\$20.40
ELECTRIC															
ELECTRIC SUPERVISOR	E-1	\$23.16	\$25.55	\$26.82	\$28.17	\$29.58	\$31.06	\$32.16	\$34.50	\$36.00	\$40.00	\$42.00	\$44.00	\$46.75	\$49.00
LINEMAN 1ST CLASS	E-2	\$22.89	\$24.04	\$25.24	\$26.50	\$27.83	\$29.22	\$30.68	\$32.21	\$34.50	\$36.00	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$42.40	\$45.00
LINEMAN 2ND CLASS	E-3	\$18.12	\$18.99	\$19.92	\$20.93	\$21.98	\$23.09	\$24.24	\$25.45	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$33.50	\$35.00
LINEMAN 3RD CLASS	E-4	\$16.53	\$17.29	\$18.15	\$19.06	\$20.01	\$21.02	\$22.07	\$23.17	\$24.33	\$25.55	\$27.00	\$29.00	\$31.00	\$32.10
LINEMAN HELPER	E-5	\$14.03	\$14.88	\$15.66	\$16.43	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$19.03	\$19.99	\$22.00	\$23.50	\$24.35	\$25.30	\$26.35	\$27.40
APPRENTICE	E-6	\$11.85	\$12.44	\$13.06	\$13.72	\$14.40	\$15.12	\$15.88	\$17.50	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$20.70	\$21.50	\$22.35	\$23.25
WATER															
WATER SUPERVISOR	W-1	\$18.08	\$18.99	\$19.83	\$20.83	\$21.80	\$22.89	\$24.04	\$25.24	\$26.50	\$27.83	\$28.94	\$30.10	\$31.30	\$32.56
OPERATOR	W-2	\$15.65	\$16.47	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$18.99	\$19.92	\$20.93	\$21.98	\$23.09	\$24.24	\$25.21	\$26.22	\$27.27	\$28.36
PLANT HELPER	W-3	\$12.83	\$13.39	\$14.03	\$14.88	\$15.66	\$16.43	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$19.03	\$19.99	\$20.79	\$21.62	\$22.49	\$23.39
APPRENTICE	W-4	\$11.05	\$11.85	\$12.44	\$13.06	\$13.72	\$14.40	\$15.12	\$15.88	\$16.70	\$17.50	\$18.20	\$18.93	\$19.69	\$20.47
WASTE WATER															
SEWER SUPERVISOR	S-1	\$18.08	\$18.99	\$19.83	\$20.83	\$21.80	\$22.89	\$24.04	\$25.24	\$26.50	\$27.83	\$28.94	\$30.10	\$31.30	\$32.56
OPERATOR	S-2	\$15.65	\$16.47	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$18.99	\$19.92	\$20.93	\$21.98	\$23.09	\$24.24	\$25.21	\$26.22	\$27.27	\$28.36
PLANT HELPER	S-3	\$12.83	\$13.39	\$14.03	\$14.88	\$15.66	\$16.43	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$19.03	\$19.99	\$20.79	\$21.62	\$22.49	\$23.39
APPRENTICE	S-4	\$11.05	\$11.85	\$12.44	\$13.06	\$13.72	\$14.40	\$15.12	\$15.88	\$16.67	\$17.50	\$18.20	\$18.93	\$19.69	\$20.47
UTILITY/MAINTENANCE															
UTILITY MAN	U-1	\$16.65	\$16.47	\$17.24	\$18.12	\$18.99	\$19.92	\$20.93	\$21.98	\$23.09	\$24.24	\$25.21	\$26.22	\$27.27	\$28.36
HELPER	U-2	\$12.83	\$13.39	\$14.03	\$14.88	\$15.66	\$16.43	\$17.25	\$18.12	\$19.03	\$19.99	\$20.79	\$21.62	\$22.49	\$23.39
APPRENTICE	U-3	\$11.05	\$11.85	\$12.44	\$13.06	\$13.72	\$14.40	\$15.12	\$15.88	\$16.67	\$17.50	\$18.20	\$18.93	\$19.69	\$20.47

RENUNERATION OF HIGHEST STATE CERTIFICATION IN EACH DEPARTMENT

CLASS I STATE OF OHIO OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATION @ \$25.00 PER PAY PERIOD
 CLASS II STATE OF OHIO OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATION @ \$50.00 PER PAY PERIOD
 CLASS III STATE OF OHIO OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATION @ \$75.00 PER PAY PERIOD
 CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER (PE) @ \$100.00 PER PAY PERIOD

04/11/2019 Approved by Council