

Regular Council Meeting

11/08/2018

7:00 PM

Municipal Building

Gary Bauer, Don Gephart, Chad Hollon, Reilly Hopkins, and Cindy Sutton were present. The Mayor presided over the meeting.

BAUER/GEPHART: Motion to excuse Lori Byrom from meeting. All voted yea.

HOLLON/HOPKINS: Motion to accept agenda as presented. All voted yea.

Minutes from 10/25/18 were presented to Council.

HOLLON/SUTTON: Motion to approve minutes from 10/25/18. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented to Council.

HOLLON/GEPHART: Motion to accept bills as presented. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

GUEST SPEAKERS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Safety/Service: Gary said they discussed part-time officer and a used cruiser.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2018.037, 2019 Permanent Appropriations, 3rd Reading.

BAUER/HOLLON: Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018.037. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Cindy thanked department heads for completing everything in a timely manner. Cindy also thanked Jewelle and Sacha for their efforts.

Ordinance 2018.038, An Ordinance of the Village of Blanchester, Authorizing the Development of Customer-Owned Renewable Generation within the Village's Electric Service Territory, and Other Matters Connected Therewith, 3rd Reading.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to adopt ordinance. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Don had a discussion with Jeff Walls and Rumpke about service options to get curbside recycling for the Village without having to apply for a grant. Don also said we should consider extended contract options before going out for open bid. He suggested a three -year contract with an option of two additional years. Don surmised that due to Rumpke's low bid this year, he believes that prices would be raised next year and was interested in attaining a fixed rate to save money and suggested delving further into the possibility during the next Finance Committee Meeting.

The Mayor remarked that there was a meeting scheduled for November 13th, 2018 at 2:00 pm at ODOT office on St. Rt. 68 to discuss a winter storm plan.

Reilly discussed the issue with the elevator in the Village Building and stated that a notice from American Elevator came in the mail notifying of an increase in fees. Reilly did some estimating and noted that the village had spent \$3,200 in maintenance on the elevator so far this year. He suggested that public meetings for departments located on the upper floor be conducted on the ground floor so that the elevator isn't needed

for transport and that the upper meeting rooms could be used as storage areas. The Mayor recommended that Reilly gather materials and/or information for council to review.

Cindy inquired about the possibility of a grant to cover the cost of building repairs. The Mayor recommended going over village expenses for the last five years and assess average yearly expenditures.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

None.

STREET

Wayne Clifton purchased a 48 x 9 sign to be placed at the Veteran Memorial Park south entrance. The Street Dept has already installed the post for said-sign. There will be a dedication ceremony scheduled for November 12th at 3:00 pm honoring Mr. Chester Wilson. Total cost for the sign is \$118.42. Wayne offered to cover the cost on behalf of the Street Department. Ron Johnson volunteered on behalf of The Parks Board to split the expense with the Street Department.

Chad mentioned that he had called State about road signs downtown and has not yet received a response.

Street Department had road repairs done and received the invoices for those repairs. Total costs in prevailing wages for 9 repairs came to \$41,425, and in non-prevailing wages for 12 repairs came to \$27,185, making a grand total of \$68,610. Wayne made a telephone call on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 to Jeff Linkus regarding salt. Wayne mention that he received a contract from Morton in the mail and that Morton Salt Co. only provided us with 100 tons of salt which was half of the 200-ton contracted amount. They stated there was a shortage and we could request additional salt as needed. The Mayor noted that the salt shortage for 2019 is a county-wide issue according to Jeff Linkus.

PARKS

Russ Kidd conducted a Park Board meeting Tuesday night regarding the concession stand at Veterans Memorial Park and stated that he had secured a contractor and an approved bid from Tissandier to finish it as well as a plumber to complete plumbing work. His goal is to have it open by the first of February or March 2019 and stated that it is going to cost a total of \$37,000 to get all work completed.

Tina Fischer applied for a NatureWorks grant earlier this year for the playground located out in front of the Village Building. She was awarded a tentative NatureWorks grant this week (ODNR) for \$31,589. The Parks Department will be contributing more than the 25% they will owe for this project in order to get a better playground and Tina stated that the playground will be completely redone from the ground up. She also stated that ODNR may not provide funding until the summer of 2020 and remarked that grants are awarded a year in advance before funding starts rolling in.

Tina also announced that a reception would directly follow the Chester Wilson dedication scheduled for November 12th, 2018 and specified it would be held in the cafeteria and is open to the general public. Another announcement was made for Breakfast with Santa on December 1st, 2018. Tina asked Andrew for a better way to expense this event and other events in the future. Andrew stated that they had discussed a few options and suggested Tina confer with the Mayor and the Fiscal Office to come to an arrangement. Cindy advised reviewing it at the upcoming Finance Committee Meeting. Ron suggested that Breakfast with Santa be appropriated no less than \$500.

HOLLON/GEPHART: Motion to appropriate \$500 to Parks – Other Event Supplies account line for Breakfast with Santa. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Ron Johnson passed out bids on three new dugouts with a total cost of \$4,400. The Parks Department will cover \$2,200 of the cost and the baseball association would cover \$2,200.00. The Mayor noted that \$7,000 has been appropriated under contractual for the Parks budget.

HOLLON/GEPHART: Motion to increase appropriations in Parks Contractual account line to \$32,035 (not to exceed \$39,200). Roll call was made. All voted yea.

BPA

None.

SOLICITOR

None.

FISCAL OFFICE

None.

MAYOR

The Mayor made an announcement about the Community Thanksgiving Dinner event being held at the Wendy's in Wilmington, OH from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm on November 22nd, 2018 and stated that it is free for everyone to attend. He added that the event planners are looking for monetary donations and volunteer and that menu items for the event are turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberries, rolls, and pumpkin pie. He said he would post an announcement about the event on the Village's Facebook page.

The Mayor added that the night prior, he, Ram Reddy, and Reilly Hopkins attended the Sweet Cheeks Charity for Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bag sponsored by Choice One Engineering. The Mayor, Ram, and Reilly represented Blanchester at this event. The event met its goal to provide for 500 families.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Constable thanked those who voted "no" on the earnings tax.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

HOLLON/HOPKINS: Motion to adjourn. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Approved: 12/20/18

Mayor: John M. Carman

Attest: Julie Conrad