

Regular Council Meeting
03/28/2019
7:00 PM
Municipal Building

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 02/28/19 were presented to Council.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to approve minutes from 02/28/19 as presented. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented to Council. Mayor requested that #9 (Careworks) be stricken from the list. Discussion took place regarding a few other bills.

HOLLON/BAUER: Motion to approve bills with change noted (Careworks stricken). Roll call was made. All voted yea.

GUEST SPEAKERS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reilly Hopkins gave a brief report from the 3/21/19 Safety/Service meeting. Meeting discussion included possibly moving Council Chambers to an alternate location in building to allow upstairs organizations to move downstairs due to excessive elevator repairs/costs, a possible earnings tax for 100% going entirely to streets, and leaf pickup and preparation.

Cindy Sutton gave a brief report from the 3/7/19 Finance Committee meeting. Items discussed included Rumpke recycling program, bike racks in Safe Routes for Schools projects, 2017-18 audit, generator repair, and Municipal Building emergency signs. Mayor stated that Amazon has the best deal for the emergency lights. It was determined that the color of light bulb doesn't matter according to fire inspector, as long as sign is lit and is visible the sign would meet compliance. Mayor then discussed the phone system battery backup possible cost; he mentioned there had been discussion about possibly upgrading the entire phone system. Finance committee is recommending purchasing battery backup for current phone system (not to exceed \$800). Council requested tabling the purchase recommendation until more information could be obtained. Mayor stated the bike racks had been incorporated into the Safe Routes for School plan. He then confirmed that 4/30/19 is the cutoff for the new flag payments to help Boy Scouts.

OLD BUSINESS

HOLLON/BAUER: Motion to place Ordinance 2019.010, Unlawful Parking of Motor Vehicles, on third and final reading. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

HOPKINS/SUTTON: Motion to adopt Resolution 2019.011, Resolution to Contract for Legal Services on Behalf of the Village of Blanchester. Roll call was made. Hollon abstained, all others voted yea.

HOLLON/GEFHART: Motion to adopt Resolution 2019.012, Resolution Authorizing Clinton County Regional Planning Commission and Choice One Engineering to Apply for Safe Routes to School Grant Funds on Behalf of the Village of Blanchester. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor stated that Council needed to approve Marie Mays’ hiring by the BPA.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to approve hiring of Marie Mays. All voted yea.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Reinbolt gave an update regarding the Trust donation to the Police Department. He stated that in 2018, the Trust agreed to match dollar for dollar budget increase to the 2019 PD budget. Between their recent donation and already paying for the lab services, there has been a \$11,620 total match. The Trust had also directly paid for a new police cruiser at the end of 2018.

Officer Kibbee is leaving the Blanchester police force to work full-time at another entity. The Police Department will be looking into another part-time officer.

STREET

Wayne Clifton stated he didn’t believe the repairs of the street light on Broadway/Center should be taken from the street department. He stated that an additional street light on Main was knocked off and had to be repaired. Mayor stated there had been talk about making the Broadway/Center intersection a four-way stop. Wayne inquired about the possible grant for Dudley Road and mentioned Dennis Stanforth had been helping the Street Department while Jeff was incapacitated working for \$11.41/hr. He requested raising his contract labor price to \$12.50/hr.

GEPHART/SUTTON: Motion to increase Dennis Stanforth’s contractual pay to \$12.50/hr. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Discussion took place regarding a street levy vs. income tax. It was decided to wait until Solicitor was present to proceed any further.

PARKS

None.

BPA

Ram Reddy discussed the Reservoir 3 project and discussed billing the library and fire department for kilowatt hour tax. Once collected, it would be added to the inside KWH tax that is received into the General Fund. Ram shared that the BPA had been contemplating converting their billing software to the Software Solutions VIP program. The BPA Board had approved the program, and should be fully in place in about 2 months. He stated that the current software is not very flexible with reports for the auditors and will not allow unbundling of rates. There will be a reformatting of the existing bill for better customer understanding of charges. He stated the current bill is all lumped together and people do not see the breakdown clearly. Reilly inquired about the solar project and IMPA’s interest in participating in that project. Ram stated that IMPA was willing to build in Ohio, which would yield better benefits than Indiana. IMPA would both invest the money and purchase the land. Once the upgrade happens in the electric plant here, IMPA would be interested in moving forward.

SOLICITOR

None.

FISCAL OFFICE

Jewelie Casteel presented adjustments to Council.

ADJUSTMENTS 03/28/2019

FUND/DEPT	UAN ACCT #	FUND
TOTAL GEN FUND		\$0.00
PD OPERATING FUND POLICE & FIRE PENSION	2906-110-215	\$ (500.00)
PD OPERATING FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY	2906-110-500	\$ 500.00
ELEC TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION	5301-514-252	\$ 10,000.00
ELEC OTHER CONTRACTUAL SVCS	5301-514-390	\$ (10,000.00)
PARKS TAX COLLECTION FEES	2042-740-344	\$ 5,000.00
STATE HIGHWAY OPERS	2021-620-211	\$ 100.00
STATE HIGHWAY CONTRACTUAL	2021-620-300	\$ 2,000.00
STATE HIGHWAY SUPPLIES	2021-620-400	\$ 1,500.00
STREET-STREETS, HIGHWAYS, CURBS & SIDEWALKS	2011-610-396	\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL OTHER		\$10,600.00
TOTAL GEN FUND+OTHER		\$10,600.00

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

Jewelie stated that the 2017-2018 audit had already started, and auditors had been reviewing UAN records remotely. Auditors planned to be onsite in a few weeks.

MAYOR

Mayor Carman mentioned the recent blood drive was successful with 23 donors (147% of goal, including 2 first time donors). He thanked the residents who participated.

Mayor turned Council's attention to renewal of liquor permits. Chief stated he had not seen the renewal notification. Mayor stated he would get a copy to the Chief for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Constable, 716 Cherry Street, talked about debt.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to adjourn. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Approved: 04/11/19

Mayor: John M. Carman

Attest: Jewelie Carman