

Regular Council Meeting
06/13/2019
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.

Mayor stated there were revisions to the agenda: #6 (Guest Speakers) Add Bill Peelle to speak on Ordinance 2019.019; #18 (Executive Session) move to follow #8 (Old Business).

HOPKINS/BAUER: Motion to accept agenda with recommended changes. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 05/23/19 were presented to Council.

HOLLON/SUTTON: Motion to approve minutes from 05/23/19 as presented. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/ADJUSTMENTS

Bills were presented to Council.

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

Adjustments were presented to Council.

ADJUSTMENTS 06/13/2019

FUND/DEPT	UAN ACCT #	FUND
UNIFORM ACCOUNTING NETWORK FEES	1000-745-343	\$ 296.00
MISC FEES	1000-990-990-0006	\$ (296.00)
TOTAL GEN FUND		\$0.00
CURLESS RECREATION FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY	2041-310-500	\$ 100.00
WATER CAPITAL OUTLAY	5101-531-500	\$ (30,000.00)
WATER CAPITAL OUTLAY AUTOMOTIVE	5101-539-590-0009	\$ 20,000.00
WATER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	5101-531-300	\$ 10,000.00
TOTAL OTHER		\$100.00
TOTAL GEN FUND+OTHER		\$100.00

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

GUEST SPEAKERS

Mayor introduced Bill Peelle, Clinton County Joint Park District and Taylor Stuckert, Clinton County Regional Planning. Bill spoke on a Needs Assessment completed in 2015 for basic health, wellness and needs of the county. The conclusion was the county wished to: 1) increase overall quality of life; 2) reduce health disparities; and 3) introduce basic wellness and quality of life to residents. Bill Peelle suggested a joint recreation district should be considered for Clinton County. This would require two or more districts to join together, form a board, after which said board would look assess improvements county-wide. If involved, the Blanchester Parks Department would remain autonomous. Possibilities would include basketball courts, walking tracks, and swimming facilities. Mr. Peelle gave history of how this group has come into existence. Taylor Stuckert reminded Council that his speech from 2016 was pretty much the same as today; some communities have facilities, others do not. They felt that every community would not be able to provide the park services needed, so the joint district would enhance any existing parks departments. 74% of county residents surveyed stated they used Wilmington parks on a regular basis. Majority surveyed that additional facilities were desired by the community. There is a belief that some residents are moving to other communities partly based on the lack of parks and wellness facilities available in the immediate area. Wilmington would have the primary facility as they have the resources available and the majority of residents. The members of the board would not have to be members of the city or

even the county. Blanchester would have 1 of the 7 seats on said board to vocalize the needs of its community. Private funds were used to fund a private consultant which stated after a survey was conducted that even the senior citizens would like to have a safe environment for exercise and well as a place for children. This proposed facility would have an 8-lane swimming facility and other immunities. There have been several meetings held and other counties were sought for consultation prior to going to the county commissioners. Board would include 3 people from county, 3 city, and 1 from Blanchester. County has passed it; Wilmington has passed it. He stated he believed Blanchester would also pass this to move forward. For every \$100,000 of property value, this would approximately cost the resident \$26/year. The board would be able to charge a modest membership fee or the facility could be free of cost if property tax covered full cost.

Taylor reemphasized that the county could have gone into this alone, but chose to allow Blanchester to be a participant in the project. Cindy stated she wanted the smaller communities to be included in this effort. Taylor reassured her that they had spoken with almost all of the mayors in the county and had full support from the other communities. Mayor stressed the importance of the concept of working together with the other communities on the project. Chad asked why after 5 years of preparation, the ordinance seemed to be an emergency at this particular meeting. Bill stated that the commissioners have approved it, and then the board must be formed. In order for it to be placed on the ballot for a levy, they needed time to get the board formed and to analyze the creation of the levy by the deadline for placing the levy on the ballot. County Commissioners had approved it on the previous Monday. Mayor introduced Ordinance 2019.019, To Join the Clinton County Joint Recreation District.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2019.019 on emergency reading. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

GEPHART/HOPKINS: Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019.019, Ordinance to Join the Clinton County Joint Recreation District. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Mayor recommended Tom Lee as Blanchester representative for Clinton County Joint Recreation District Board.

SUTTON/HOPKINS: Motion to appoint Tom Lee as board representative. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cindy read through the recent finance committee meeting minutes. Afterward, she read the planning commission meeting minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor introduced proposed full-time police pay schedule with 7-year tier for Sergeant.

HOPKINS/GEPHART: Motion to approve pay scale as presented. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

GEPHART/HOLLON: Motion to recess to executive session pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1) to consider appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official inviting Mayor, James Bowling, Ram Reddy and Solicitor. Roll call was made. Council recessed at 7:37 PM.

Roll call was made. Council resumed at 8:53 PM.

HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to accept BPA recommendation to hire Kim Leath for Business Manager/Clerk position at Step K as a probation period. Roll call was made: HOLLON, HOPKINS – yea; BAUER, GEPHART, SIMPSON, SUTTON – no. Motion failed due to lack of majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2019.018, Establishing the Position of Village Administrator for the Village of Blanchester Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 735.271 and Abolishing the Board of Trustees for Public Affairs Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 735.272, was introduced by the Mayor.

GEPHART/BAUER: Motion to place Ordinance 2019.018 on first reading, Establishing the Position of Village Administrator for the Village of Blanchester Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 735.271 and Abolishing the Board of Trustees for Public Affairs Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 735.272. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

Don requested special council meetings be scheduled for the next two Thursdays at 7PM to discuss Ordinance 2019.018.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

None.

STREET

Wayne Clifton inquired about more information on alley. Cindy stated she would discuss with him the following day.

PARKS

None.

BPA

Ram Reddy discussed Fancy Street Water Main Replacement project. He reminded Council they had passed the resolution to proceed with project (Resolution 2019.006). He requested that Mayor approve the final plans for the project. He stated the specifications were currently being working on and hopefully by the end of July all bids would be in. Mission is to complete project before winter sets in.

SUTTON/HOLLON: Motion to approve plans and to authorize Mayor to sign. Roll call was made. All voted yea.

SOLICITOR

None.

FISCAL OFFICE

None.

MAYOR

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Constable, 716 Cherry Street, spoke about Ordinance 2019.018.

James Bowling (BPA Board Member), 321 Center Street, read letter written to BPA staff regarding Ordinance 2019.018.

HOLLON/HOPKINS: Motion to adjourn. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Approved: July 11, 2019

Mayor: John M. Cannon

Attest: Julia Costello