

02/10/2022

Regular Council Meeting

7:00 PM

Meeting in council chambers

Harry Brumbaugh, William Garner, Reilly Hopkins, and Josh Parks were present. Mayor John Carman presided over the meeting.

HOPKINS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to excuse Don Gephart and Tyler McCollister. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was presented to Council. Mr. Hopkins inquired as to when the Parks Department would be back on the agenda. Mayor Carman stated that anytime the Parks Department had things share, they could request to be on the agenda.

BRUMBAUGH/HOPKINS: Motion to accept agenda. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 1/26/2022 and 1/27/2022 were presented to Council.

BRUMBAUGH/PARKS: Motion to approve minutes as presented. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented to Council.

HOPKINS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to approve bills. All voted yea.

GUEST SPEAKER – PHIL BLANKENSHIP – Mr. Blankenship explained the report received from Employee Benefits Service. The report is updated monthly and is a tool to review the self-funded health insurance that the village has.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2021.045 – Mayor Carman stated he was asked to place the ordinance on the agenda. Mr. Parks asked Ram Reddy to again explain why there was a need to increase sewer rates and talked about carryover and debt. Mr. Reddy explained that there have been mandates from Ohio EPA requiring upgrades. He noted that the village has received grant money, but grants require local share. Also, the customer base has remained the same and supply costs have gone up significantly. He also explained that there is no capital improvement money. Mayor Carman pointed out that for the month of January, expenses exceeded revenue by more than \$50,000.00. Mrs. May stated that the village cannot continue to spend carryover for regular expenses. Mr. Reddy spoke further about different projects. During Mr. Reddy's explanation, Mr. Garner and Mr. Parks were carrying on a separate conversation. There was disruption from James Constable during Mr. Reddy's comments.

PARKS/GARNER: Motion to repeal and review in 3 to 6 months. Roll call was made and the vote resulted as follows: Brumbaugh, No; Garner, Yes; Hopkins, No; Parks, Yes. Mayor Carman broke the tie vote with No. Motion failed.

RESOLUTION 2021.043 – Village Comprehensive Plan

Mayor Carman suggested the resolution be tabled for when all of Council was present and for further review. Council agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) East Fancy Street Water Main Replacement - Engineering Agreement

Mayor Carman explained that the BPA recommends working with Choice One Engineering for the project and requested authorization to enter into the agreement.

HOPKINS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with Choice One Engineering for the project. All voted yea.

2) Cherry Street Phase II Bid Award – Mayor Carman presented the bids and requested authorization to enter into agreement with the lowest bid, Panetta Excavating.
HOPKINS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with Panetta Excavating. All voted yea.

3) Resolution 2022.004 – Safe Routes To School

Mayor Carman introduced the resolution to continue moving forward with the sidewalk project on Baldwin Street. The Fiscal Officer requested the two paragraphs referencing volumes and page numbers be stricken from the resolution.

PARKS/HOPKINS: Motion to suspend the rules and to approve the resolution. All voted yea.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

Mrs. May advised Council that fiscal year 2021 was closed. There will be final numbers shared at the next meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Carman welcomed Chief Houghton to the meeting. The mayor discussed Fancy Street, phase 2. With new rules, Community Development Block Grant is requiring a survey to prove low to moderate income qualification. Mayor Carman stated he would be requesting the fire department assist with the survey. He also shared that UDF has extended their contract with Taco Bell until May.

PARKS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to recess to executive session to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee or official pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §121.22 (G)(1), for the Police Department. The mayor invited Council and Chief Houghton. Mr. Hopkins requested the fiscal officer attend also. Roll call was made. All voted yea. Council recessed to executive session at 8:04 p.m. Council resumed at 8:25 p.m. Roll call was made.

Mayor Carman made a recommendation to enter into an agreement with David Henry to assist with prosecution for the police department.

HOPKINS/BRUMBAUGH: Motion to approve agreement (same as with Laura Gibson) with David Henry beginning February 11, 2022. All voted yea.

BRUMBAUGH/PARKS: Motion to approve revised pay scale as presented for Lieutenant position. All voted yea.

HOPKINS/PARKS: Motion to employ Steven Browder as lieutenant in the police department at Step G, effective March 7, 2022 pending approved background check at the recommendation of Chief Houghton. All voted yea.

Chief Houghton stated it had been a good first two weeks. He is looking at identifying all of the things to change, upgrade at no cost and utilizing free reporting system.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Constable, 716 Cherry Street, complained that the village did not have a budget.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Approved: February 24, 2022

Mayor: John M. Carman

Attest: David Henry

