

02/24/2022

Regular Council Meeting

7:00 PM

Meeting in Council Chambers

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was presented to Council with addition of Chief Houghton.

BRUMBAUGH/PARKS: Motion to accept agenda with addition. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 2/10/2022 (RCM) and 2/17/2022 (SCM) were presented to Council.

HOPKINS/GEPHART: Motion to approve minutes as presented. All voted yea.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were presented to Council.

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

GUEST SPEAKERS

Karie Novesl from Hylant reviewed the property and liability insurance renewal. The village does a good job with loss exposure. Overall, there is a 2% increase for the renewal. The drone for the Parks Department is listed under property insurance, but further information is needed for liability coverage. Also discussed were enhancements available including cyber liability and Lexipol.

PARKS/HOPKINS: Motion to approve renewal at the amount of \$39,490.00 with addition of \$1,547.00 to increase cyber liability coverage to \$1,000,000.00 with a \$25,000.00 deductible. All voted yea.

Kaitlyn Lewis, Cross Roots Inc., presented information on a proposed fundraiser for the police department. The tentative date is April 23, 2022 at the high school. Mayor Carman thanked Ms. Lewis and indicated he would be in contact after direction from legal counsel.

MCCOLLISTER/PARKS: Motion to seek legal counsel and move forward. All voted yea.

Chief Houghton reported that Steve Browder would tentatively begin employment on March 14, 2022 as lieutenant pending receipt of a physical. Chief recommends employing Jeremy Helton as Sergeant at Step A, beginning February 28, 2022. No physical is required.

PARKS/GEPHART: Motion to employ Jeremy Helton at Step A as Sergeant pending background checks. All voted yea.

Chief Houghton recommended employment of David Gillen as a part-time officer beginning March 14, 2022, moving to full-time May 1, 2022.

BRUMBAUGH/GEPHART: Motion to employ David Gillen as a part-time officer at Step E beginning March 14, 2022, moving to full-time May 1, 2022 pending testing and background check. All voted yea.

ORDINANCE 2021.043 – Mayor Carman introduced the comprehensive plan for its third reading. He also noted any annexation would need to be approved by Council.

GEPHART/MCCOLLISTER: Motion to approve the ordinance. All voted yea.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

Mrs. May reviewed the Comparison of Budgeted and Appropriation report highlighting carryover from 2021, estimated resources and appropriations. Also shared was information regarding the American Relief Plan Act (ARPA) federal funding. With the final rule, the village is eligible to utilize the revenue loss option which is the \$10 million revenue loss standard allowance. The funding can be used for the purchase of police vehicles, engineering and the local match for the East Fancy Street water main project. Discussion followed regarding various uses for the funding including the Cherry Street Project. Mrs. May reminded Council that the funding could provide some relief for the Water Operating Fund by paying for water meters. Mayor Carman added he was writing a letter of intent to the Legacy Fund Grant for the needs of the police department. Mr. Hopkins noted that the village had previously acquired a grant writing service to assist the Legacy Fund Grant application. Mr. McCollister asked what the timeframe is for spending the ARPA funding. The deadline to encumber the funding is December 31, 2024. Mr. McCollister also asked if the funding could go toward the Street Department, to which Mrs. May said yes.

HOPKINS/PARKS: Motion to acquire grant writing assistance not to exceed \$1000.00 pending approval of Legacy Grant Fund letter of intent. All voted yea.

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 Mayor and Council. The mayor invited Council, the Fiscal Officer, Scott Sollmann and Jim Barbriere. Roll call was made. All voted yea. Council recessed to executive session at 8:02 p.m. Council resumed at 8:57 p.m. Roll call was made.

Mayor Carman recommended to Council to enter into an agreement with SMBP Law pending a mutual contract agreement.

HOPKINS/MCCOLLISTER: Motion to approve recommendation to enter into an agreement with SMBP Law for village solicitor. All voted yea.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Carman introduced the topic of air quality in the Municipal Building. Mr. Parks noted that several areas have tested positive for asbestos and expressed concerns regarding the air quality. Mr. Paul Jackson explained how the air would be tested and suggested black mold be tested for also. Mr. Tom Lee cautioned Council that should the testing results return poor results, the building could be shut down. Discussion followed regarding obtaining various quotes for testing and encapsulation. Mr. McCollister expressed concern about spending money to encapsulate floors should other major expenses arise. Additional discussion followed about various areas in the building. Mr. Hopkins mentioned a trust fund specifically for the police department that might be used. Mr. Jackson offered to provide contacts to obtain pricing for testing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Constable, 716 Cherry Street, talked about carryover for the sewer operating fund and that an increase in the sewer rate was not needed.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Approved: March 10, 2022

Mayor: John M Carman

Attest: Sharon A May