

Regular Council Meeting
February 5th, 2008

The meeting of February 5th, 2008 was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Robert C. Bickley.

Roll call: present- Dickman, Fox, Jenkins, Maloney, Kovesdi, and Wolf.

Motion by Wolf, seconded by Fox to approve the Minutes of the January 15th, 2008 meeting. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Fox, seconded by Kovesdi to approve the February 5th, 2008 Council Bills in the amount of \$13,583.88. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Dickman, seconded by Fox to approve the February 5th, 2008 Utility Bills in the amount of \$50,037.85. Vote-all yeas, motion carried

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

George Gottwald again addressed Council on vacating an alley at 51-53 Bond Street. He presented a signed petition from two of his neighbors, indicating they were in favor of it. He would like to know Councils thoughts on the vacating before he spent money on the legal aspect of it. He would need a variance on it even if it were vacated, and there is no guarantee that would happen. The Solicitor questioned owning only part of the alley, asking Council if it might be better to vacate the entire alley versus de-valuing the remainder that would stay Village property. Motion by Maloney, seconded by Wolf to table this issue until it can be looked into further. Vote-all yeas, motion carried. The Fiscal Officer will hold onto the original petition Mr. Gottwald offered to Council.

Ron and Martha Shafer were also in attendance.

OLD COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers-The Solicitor has drafted another letter to ODOT to keep the dialogue open. She feels the Village is not ready to concede to ODOT's legal opinion that the problem is that of the Village. She also feels some of their responses have been in reaction to newspaper articles and not necessarily to the Village. There was also brief discussion of de-annexing the US Rt. 250 right of way from the Village limits.

Motion by Jenkins, seconded by Kovesdi to authorize the Administrator to move forward with the legal draft for right of way, property line and a possible easement for erosion by the ravine on Wilcoxson and Elm Streets. Dean Frederick will do the surveying. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

Safety-None

Finance-The Fiscal Officer has finished training on the new software, and the Utility Department will begin running bills on both systems the first month to verify numbers.

Regional Planning, Building Codes & Inspection-None

Utilities-It will cost approximately \$15,000.00 to remove the underground storage tank at the wastewater treatment plant. The Administrator is looking into another quote.

The Administrator and Electric Superintendent reviewed Time Warner's pole agreement, noticing it didn't include an attachment for the financial part. They have heard nothing back since then.

Civic Contact and Historical Preservation –None

Parks and Trees-None

NEW COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Streets, Sidewalks, and Storm Sewers –The street survey the Street Superintendent conducts yearly will be done and presented to Council in the near future.

Erie Blacktop will let the Village know the price of asphalt, which may help the Village decide what kinds of jobs they will be able to do.

Safety –None

Finance-Representing the Finance Committee, motion by Wolf, seconded by Kovesdi to accept Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield as the new provider for Village insurance, effective March 1st, 2008. The current insurance was through Medical Mutual and the increase was 28% for the coming year, which would have raised costs to over \$14,000.00 a month. The new insurance will cost \$8219.07 a month, which includes a dental and eye vision plan. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Kovesdi, seconded by Jenkins to authorize the Fiscal Officer to pay Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield in the amount of \$8219.07 for the first month. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

It was pointed out before the 28% increase, the Village did save approximately \$42,000.00 last year on insurance premiums with the higher deductible they went with the year before. The new insurance will also carry the same high deductibles.

Regional Planning, Building Codes & Inspection-None.

Utilities-R.A. Bores has submitted a cost of \$6350.00 for a sanitary sewer extension project. This price does not include possible additional cost to locate and connect two homes involved in this.

The Consumer Confidence Report was sent to the EPA and posted in the Village. No issues were found and a copy will be mailed with the next utility bill to all residents.

The Administrator attended an Erie County Recycling Meeting recently. Discussed was the county increasing recycling along with billing if the Village were to go with one hauler.

Civic Contact and Historical Preservation-Tom Garard from Sandusky Fast Pitch Association thanked the community for support in a fundraiser for Jack Kuhlman, donor and Jim Kimberlin recipient of a kidney transplant. He took time to list all the businesses that made contributions to the benefit.

Wolf stated she has experienced similar generosity when raising money for the Clothing Bank.

The Administration Building is leaking again, weeks after Janotta and Herner was here to fix the problem.

Doris Weiss, past Clerk –Treasurer for the Village of Milan from October 1979 through March 1988 passed away on January 26, 2008. Mrs. Weiss also filled in to help as Clerk-Treasurer from November 1998 through February 1999.

The Lions will sponsor a pancake breakfast on February 17th from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the high school with proceeds going to the drama boosters .

Parks and Trees-The columns at the gazebo in the park are rotted. Dan Frederick suggested composite columns to replace them, first trying with one, split. A crane will be needed to replace them.

The Street Department cleaned and scraped the streets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The meeting on February 19th will begin at 6:30 for a public meeting to discuss the possible reforming of the Zoning and Planning Commissions.

The Mayor appointed Jenkins, Wolf and Kevin Ackerman as a committee to work on a policy or some sort of structure for raises next year.

The sale of the gas station fell through, now Dean Beck of Beck Supply will clean it up and anticipates it going to Sheriff's Sale.

The owners of the abandoned house on Church Street will be served with a notice to clean it up per ordinance.

The Village dump status was discussed. The Administrator put a proposal together and sent it to 3 companies, asking them the steps required to take the information currently available and the environmental issues surrounding the historic Village dump to achieve an environmentally certified no further action status, also asking for support provided to the Village for it's efforts to search for grant money and any additional requirements identified and documented. He would also like permission to enter the site at will. His concerns are what the Village is going to do and what the cost will be,

The 192 Quarter horse returned from Iraq, with the Mayor there to represent the Village.

Motion by Dickman, seconded by Fox to adjourn. Vote-all yeas, motion carried.

Mayor Robert C. Bickley

Fiscal Officer Mary Bruno