

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Steve Smith presided over the meeting.

Members answering roll call were Kathy Burrier, Jeff Smith, Liz Dreher, Don Wallick, Martin Zehnder, and Dustin Briggs. Others present were Legal Counsel Attorney Richard Fox, Planning Commission Chairman Mike Durbin, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Bruce Metzger, John Samsa, Brian Herzog, Emily Crilley, Wayne Schlabach, Wayne Zecor, John Long, and Lindsay Thomas.

A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2020 council meeting. At roll call, the vote was as follows: Zehnder, abstain; Wallick, yes; Smith, yes; Dreher, yes; Burrier, yes; and Briggs, abstain.

The November financial statement, November Unified Bank Statement, November SSB Worksheet, and the list of bills was presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to approve the November financial statement, November Unified Bank Statement, November SSB Worksheet, and the list of bills in the amount of \$ 476,192.35. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Stenwood Developers legal representative Wayne Zecor noted to council that they had presented the plat to the Planning Commission and provided the mylar for the development to Legal Counsel Richard Fox. Planning Commission Chairman Mike Durbin reported on behalf of the planning commission that the lot sizes, road width and setbacks, all comply to the zoning. Fox noted that he discussed the plat with Village Administrator Ron Lambert and Engineer Don Dummermuth and they stated that everything is fine with the preliminary plat and that the Ohio EPA has given approval. Fox noted that ownership of the retention pond is still a question and that the developers are in favor of the village owning the pond. Fox noted that there are no lot numbers on the mylar and that Tuscarawas is misspelled on the mylar. Wayne Schlabach noted that their engineer is under the understanding that the county will set the lot numbers once the mylar is recorded. Fox noted that he met with Lambert and Dummermuth and reviewed the preliminary plat and that there have been many changes to the final plat and that this is the first time that we are seeing this final mylar. Fox noted that his concern is that there are unanswered questions that should be answered before the plat is recorded. Zecor noted that the developer is okay with waiting until the January 5, 2021 meeting for approval. Fox noted that he will review the mylar and go to the map office and look into lot numbers and will get back with their engineer. Durbin noted that our engineer can review the issue of the retention pond and taking ownership, noting that the lot will be a non-buildable lot where the retention pond is. Zecor noted that the restrictions were submitted to the planning commission and that they be included in the deeds. Durbin will give Fox a copy of the deed restrictions.

Tuscarawas County Public Library Assistant Director Brian Herzog introduced himself to council and Strasburg Library Branch Manager Emily Crilley thanked council for the strong relationship between the library and the village noting that they will commit to continue that relationship. Crilley stated that because of the pandemic there have been no in person programs but is looking forward to 2021 to get back to the in-person programs. Crilley handed out information to council on how to use the library during the pandemic. Herzog stated that Crilley is the primary contact. Council thanked them for all they do to make the library a success.

John Samsa addressed council on a rumor of turn lanes through the village noting that he is not in favor of the proposed turn lanes because the businesses and apartments along Wooster Avenue would lose their parking. Samsa also brought up the issue of where to place the snow when plowing. Samsa suggested having a police officer on Wooster Avenue to help with the traffic at certain times.

Bruce Metzger expressed concerns of the proposed turn lanes because of the fire department responding to calls would not have enough space. Metzger noted that there are always vehicles parked between the lights on Wooster Avenue for businesses and apartments. Metzger noted that residents need to use the lights when it is busy times to get out on Wooster Avenue. Metzger also noted that a lot of wide loads travel through our village and would not be able to get through. Metzger also noted that Wooster Avenue becomes flooded during heavy rains making the sides of the road impossible to use. Mayor Steve Smith noted that the fire department members are in favor of the proposed turn lanes. Mayor Smith noted that there are 20 parking spots that would be lost if we do the turn lane and thanked them for their feedback on the proposed issue. Liz Dreher noted that refuse hauler Kimble goes on Wooster and could hold up traffic. Metzger noted that Gameday built a patio at the rear of their business and that they had to show that they have the parking on Wooster Avenue to provide enough parking for their business. Mayor Smith noted that we have looked into potential designated parking lots for public parking and noted that the post office has handicap parking in the rear. Liz Dreher noted that people would have to walk down the alley and if there was snow or ice it would be very hazardous. Mayor Smith noted that the reason for the proposed turn lanes is because the state is repaving Wooster Avenue in 2021. Mayor and council thanked everyone for their input.

Mayor Smith read a resignation letter from Zoning Inspector Karl DiBacco, effective December 31, 2020. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to accept the resignation of Karl DiBacco. At roll call, all members voted approval. Mayor Smith and council thanked DiBacco for his five years of service. Mayor Smith asked council to think of recommendations for the open position and the job opening will be posted on the village's website.

Mayor Smith noted that Village Administrator Ron Lambert has been working on the Geographic Information System, a mapping system for utilities and would like to make the recommendation to council to approve a stipend for Neal Dickerhoof and Nathan Kanouff for added duties for the mapping system that is required by the Ohio EPA. Mayor Smith also noted that the village will need to advertise to hire a Laborer I employee for the utility departments. Mayor Smith noted that a water protection plan also needs to be designed. Mayor Smith noted that Lambert will do the training of employees and will be phasing himself out over the next several years before his retirement. Jeff Smith noted that a consulting firm will assist with the GIS mapping at an estimated expense of \$ 10,000.00 to \$ 12,000.00. Martin Zehnder requested more information on the proposed items involved with the system. Mayor Smith noted that all the utility maps need to be organized into map cabinets and need to be digitized into a software system. Jeff Smith noted that this system will keep all information for future updates and is mandated by the Ohio EPA and will be a huge overtaking. Mayor Smith noted that the additional Laborer I employee will assist the departments so that Kanouff could then break away from the sewer plant and train for the GIS mapping and other duties. Liz Dreher expressed the need of a timeline for the completion. A brief discussion was held on the two issues. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to authorize Lambert to advertise to hire a Laborer I utility department employee. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Finance – Chairman Jeff Smith presented to council the 2021 temporary appropriations in the amount of \$ 7,268,360.37. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve the 2021 temporary appropriations in the amount of \$ 7,268,360.37. At roll call, all members voted approval and the information will be submitted to the Tuscarawas County Auditor. Smith noted that the finance committee met and discussed a pay ordinance for 2021 & 2022 and will have a recommendation to council at a future meeting. Smith noted that the proposed stipend will be included in the pay ordinance. Smith reported a 2.5% increase for health insurance for 2021. Smith noted that finance is also discussing an increase in the penalty on the sludge billing.

Safety – Chairwoman Kathy Burrier reported that the Police Department received a \$100.00 donation from the American Legion and a \$ 200.00 donation from the Dover Exchange Club per a suggestion from Brad Malcuit.

Park – Chairman Dustin Briggs expressed thanks to Kari Warner who organized the 2020 Turkey Trot and donated the proceeds to the Strasburg Franklin Park for playground equipment. Briggs noted that she is hoping to hold the event annually. Briggs noted that Cross Café and Subway donated gift cards, and that they had a good turnout and many volunteers that helped with the event. Briggs noted that Tigers Den made the t shirts for the event. Briggs reported that he received a quote from Vasco the sealing of the tennis courts in the amount of \$ 18,321.00 and quoted also to install new post footers, posts, anchors, and nets at \$ 3,000.00 per pair. Briggs noted that he will inspect the posts and nets to see if they are in need. A purchase order will be submitted for the sealing portion of the project.

ORDINANCE O-38-2020

Legal Counsel Fox noted that the maximum weight of a pickup truck is 22,000 lbs. Fox read the language of gross vehicle weight, no more than one commercial truck gross vehicle weight cannot exceed 22,000 lbs. Fox noted that tractors are separated by definition and that no commercial truck, semi-trailer, and no tractor is allowed in an R zoning. Fox noted that the provision on the zoning inspector needs to be included so that a zoning certificate is required for operation of a business, zoning permission use of the property in section G, and a new paragraph in section D for any business, categories, and a fee schedule. Fox noted that these are suggestions from DiBacco so that businesses are not operating without permits.

Ordinance O-38-2020 was given its fourth reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to amend Ordinance O-38-2020. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Ordinance O-38-2020, AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE REVISED ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, TUSCARAWAS COUNTY, OHIO; AND REPEALING ALL PRIOR ZONING ORDINANCES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ORDINANCE O-27-79 AND ORDINANCE O-11-2001. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately. Fox noted that he will make the amendments and then replace those pages in the zoning ordinance books.

ORDINANCE O-39-2020

Ordinance O-39-2020 was given its fourth reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-39-2020, AN ORDINANCE LEVYING ASSESSMENTS FOR CURBS AND GUTTERS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRASBURG, OHIO, BY THE OWNERS OF LOTS OR LANDS ABUTTING OAK AVENUE NW IN THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, PURSUANT TO SECTION 94.30 OF THE STRASBURG VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-43-2020

Ordinance O-43-2020 was given its third reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-43-2020, AN ORDINANCE APPROVAL AND GRANTING CONSENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TO, APPLY, MAINTAIN, AND REPAIR STANDARD LONGITUDINAL PAVEMENT MARKINGS AND ERECT REGULATORY AND WARNING SIGNS ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE VILLAGE CORPORATION LIMITS, AND GIVING CONSENT OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE AND USE SNOW AND ICE CONTROL MATERIAL ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE VILLAGE CORPORATION LIMITS, AND GIVING CONSENT OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR ON STATE HIGHWAYS INSIDE THE VILLAGE CORPORATION. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-44-2020

Ordinance O-44-2020, was given its second reading by title only. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to suspend the mandatory three readings by title only. Jeff Smith and Don Wallick noted that they feel that it is important to go the three readings on this ordinance because we are spending our taxpayer's money and that they deserve an opportunity to speak regarding this purchase. Zehnder noted that he does not feel that people will come to the next meeting. Mayor Smith noted that there may not be anyone at this meeting because the meeting night was changed. At roll call, the vote was as follows: Zehnder, yes; Wallick, yes; Smith, no; Dreher, yes; Burrier, yes; and Briggs, yes. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to approve Ordinance O-44-2020, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE IN THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO FROM CLEAR AS MUD, LLC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, the vote was as follows: Zehnder, yes; Wallick, no; Smith, no; Dreher, yes; Burrier, yes; and Briggs, yes. Legal Counsel Fox noted that this ordinance will not be effective for thirty days because of the vote of four to two.

ORDINANCE O-45-2020

Ordinance O-45-2020 was given its second reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, suspend the rules of the three mandatory readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-45-2020, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FISCAL OFFICER OF THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR INMATE HOUSING SERVICES WITH THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Council held a brief discussion on the need to survey the cemetery property for future annexation of property into the village. Legal Counsel Fox advised Metzger and Briggs that the cemetery board will be responsible for the expense of the survey, noting that a single survey of the entire cemetery can be done and then designate on a plat map the amount that is outside of the village.

Mayor Smith noted that he will be sitting in along with Don Wallick and Village Administrator Ron Lambert on interviews next week for the open Street Superintendent position.

A motion was made by Dustin Briggs, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to adjourn at 7:42 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.