

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 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 Fire Chief Andy Slemmer, Legal Counsel Attorney Richard Fox, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Jerry Schultz, Wayne Zacour, Anthony Clark, Ryan Blagg, Audrey Hendershot, and Joann Fox.

Martin Zehnder noted a correction to the minutes. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve the amended minutes from the January 19, 2021 council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Mayor Steve Smith supplied council with the Ohio Department of Health guidelines regarding public meetings. Mayor Smith noted that we are trying to do the six feet social distancing for the council meetings, noting that at the last council meeting council went into an executive session and people attending the meeting were asked to leave the room and go into the hallway during the executive session. Mayor Smith noted that for safety he will be calling on attendees at the beginning of the meetings and are then welcome to leave the meeting after their business. Mayor Smith noted that if there are a high number of attendee's they will be asked to come into the meeting one at a time for their business. Mayor Smith noted that at that meeting there were 21 attendees and that for the size of the room, it was impossible to social distance.

Mayor Smith reported that we closed on the building at 224 N Bodmer Avenue today and that work will now begin on the inside of the building. A brief discussion was held on giving the social hall at the fire station to the fire department to be renovated into rooms for sleeping for the future proposed twenty-four hour staffing. Council asked for input from residents regarding the issue. Council noted that it was not rented last year due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Council discussed the need for fencing and parking spaces at the green space on Wooster Avenue. Mayor Smith noted that we have collected \$ 15,000 of the \$ 22,000 needed for the revitalization study of the downtown. Mayor Smith noted that we have an opinion survey on the website regarding the three-lane concept for Wooster Avenue, noting that we have received some positive opinions on the concept. Mayor Smith noted that he contacted AEP regarding LED lighting for street lights and they noted that it would be four to five years before they would be upgraded to LED. Mayor Smith thanked meter reader Stephanie McCartney for braving the weather reading the meters and also thanked all the employees taking care of the streets. Mayor Smith read a thank you from My Town Strasburg for the generous donation from the village from the Cares Act funds, noting that their organization assist local residents of the village with utility bills, and household items.

Wayne Zacour representing the Stenwood Development provided council with the mylar for the proposed development. Legal Counsel Attorney Richard Fox noted that when the mylar is recorded the lot numbers will be assigned by the county recorder's office and parcel numbers will be assigned by the county treasurer's office. Fox noted that the plat can be approved and the mylar will be signed by Mayor Smith and a representative from the Planning Commission. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Stenwood Development mylar. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Anthony Clark and Ryan Blagg addressed council regarding their request to hold a semi-pro football season in Strasburg. A brief discussion was held on the proposal and Legal Counsel Fox suggested that the park committee and the school board set parameters on this proposal and reminded them that COVID-19 regulations need to be addressed and an agreement will need to be prepared and reviewed by Clark and Blagg. Dustin Briggs expressed concerns with the use of the locker rooms and the abuse of the field. Fox noted that the School board meets two weeks from tonight. Martin Zehnder suggested talking to the Booster Club also because they donate a lot of funds for the football field. Council set a work session for Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:30 pm to discuss this proposal and other issues.

Joanne Fox addressed council regarding a Police Department response to a family emergency that involved her sister. Council expressed sympathy to her family and Mayor Smith noted that he will discuss the complaint with Police Chief Dave Warrick.

Finance – Chairman Jeff Smith provided information to council to review on a proposed pay ordinance for 2020 & 2021, information on the asset program that is required by the Ohio EPA, and updated refuse and compost cost information. Smith noted that our current refuse contract expires May 31, 2021. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to authorize Legal Counsel Fox to prepare a pay ordinance for the next council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval. Smith noted that the 2021 budget and proposed projects can be discussed at the work session next week.

Park – Chairman Dustin Briggs noted that he has received final drawings and prices for the park signs and that they will be installed by April. Briggs and park committee will discuss 2021 park projects with council next week at the work session.

Safety – Chairwoman Kathy Burrier reported that she met with Fire Chief Andy Slemmer and discussed the need for new turn out gear and equipment for the fire department, noting that the requests can be discussed at the work session next week.

Street & Alley – Chairman Don Wallick noted that the committee met on January 25, 2021 and discussed streets for paving to be submitted in the Tuscarawas County paving program for 2021, the waterline replacement project on Wooster Avenue, and the waterline and paving project for Maple Avenue NW. Wallick noted that they also discussed the proposed three lane concept for Wooster Avenue, noting that business owners in the village seem hesitant to change and downtown businesses are concerned about their parking on Wooster Avenue. Wallick noted that they also discussed the need for a turn lane at the intersection of Wooster Avenue and Fort Laurens Road.

ORDINANCE O-42-2020

Jeff asked about properties that have installed cement on their front yards for parking. Fox noted that anything in existence now would be grandfathered. Fox noted that he will drive by and look at the properties discussed. Council held a brief discussion on the proposed ordinance. Ordinance O-42-2020, An Ordinance regulating off street parking of motor vehicles on the premises of any residential unit located in the Village of Strasburg, Ohio, was given its third reading by title only. This ordinance will be held for a fourth reading.

ORDINANCE O-02-2021

Ordinance O-02-2021, was given its third reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Ordinance O-02-2021, AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING ORDINANCE SECTION 60.07(g)(2) OF THE MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE OHIO BASIC CODE FOR THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG TO PROVIDE THAT PAYMENTS OF THE SLUDGE FEE DUE AND OWING TO THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG SHALL BE PAID WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE BILLING, AND ANY FEES OVER FOURTEEN (14) DAYS LATE SHALL INCUR A PENALTY OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) PER MONTH UNTIL PAID, AND TO PROVIDE FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS FOR UNPAID BILLS. At roll call, the vote was as follows: Zehnder, yes; Wallick, no; Smith, yes; Dreher, yes; Burrier, yes; and Briggs, yes. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-04-2021

Ordinance O-04-2021 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Jeff Smith, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Jeff Smith, to approve Ordinance O-04-2021, AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE EMPLOYMENT OF MATTHEW R. MILLER AS STREET SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO, ESTABLISHING A PROBATIONARY PERIOD AND A RATE OF PAY; SAID EMPLOYMENT TO BE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2021; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-06-2021

Ordinance O-06-2021 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Don Wallick, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-06-2021, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING, AND ENACTING AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING'S OHIO BASIC CODE, 2021 EDITION, AS THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-07-2021

Ordinance O-07-2021 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-07-2021, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF ELAINA BERRY BY THE STRASBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SERVE AS AN ADVANCED EMT, PENDING COMPLETION OF HER HIRING REQUIREMENTS, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 3, 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Jeff Smith noted that the village's website has been updated and is more user friendly. Smith noted that the website creator is looking for photos for the new website. Smith noted that there is a comment section on the website and also two survey questions. Smith noted that the information goes to an email and that there is no discussion and that no one else can see the information. Smith noted that there have been responses to the three-lane concept and all were positive and that all of the comments on the downtown study have been study favorable. Smith noted that one comments stated it would be safer to have off street parking downtown and not on Wooster Avenue. Mayor Smith noted that the impact study has just begun and they will start to talk to businesses, residents, and churches and will take at least six months. Smith told Briggs that he received a call regarding softball tournaments to be held in 2021. Fox reminded everyone about the COVID-19 guidelines from 2020 that would need to be continued for 2021.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to adjourn at 8:00 pm. At roll call all members voted approval.

MAYOR STEVE SMITH

FISCAL OFFICER JENNIFER MAHONEY