

# Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

December 17, 2020

Mayor Samantha Burkhead called the meeting to order, Samantha led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Roll Call

Present: Mayor Samantha Burkhead, Administrator Dirk Davis, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn, Jordan Castello, Rod Miller, Cindy Foose, Carol Merritt

Absent:

## Guest(s)

Stephanie Castelo, Phil Castello, Pete Busack, Chuck Little, Mike Flowers, Mike Shaheen

## Reports

The Fiscal Officer E-Mailed Fund Status, Cash Summary by Fund, Fund Ledger, Payroll, Receipt Register & YTD Appropriation status reports to Council Members, Administrator, Fire Chief & Mayor. Jordan Castello made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Rod Miller, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Administrator Dirk Davis presented his monthly report to council.

- Goshen and Belmont have approved the purchase of the paving roller. TJ is going to draft the contract on how the roller sharing will work. Cindy Foose made a motion to purchase the roller, seconded by Carol Merritt, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.
- Barr Surveying is still working on the new maps of the two proposed streets. The new solicitor will have to follow up on this.
- Work on Virginia Street Extension will begin in the spring.
- We have had two big snow storms and Jimmy and Byron have done a great job plowing.
- Dirk received a quote to double chip and seal Anderson Addition, Grandview, and Buckeye at a cost of \$18,500. Rick stated that he spoke to finance about it and they were in favor. Carol Merritt made a motion to approve the quote, seconded by Rod Miller, Jay Van Horn - Abstain, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.
- AEP notified the mayor that they were going to install a new pole on north main by the cottages. A vehicle had hit the pole and the pole has since been installed.
- Christmas lights are up and working. There are only 13 lights. Brian Mason helped do some wiring for us and Dirk would like to give him \$100 for his work. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve the \$100 payment, seconded by Rod Miller, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.
- The DAS surplus application has been sent in and is good until 2023.
- We are expecting the F250 with snow plow later this month. The F600 has been delivered to ACE to have the dump bed and plow installed and we should get this in January. The F150 is still being made.

Fiscal Officer Burkhead informed council that we received the CRF funds and we need to appropriate them to be able to spend them. We need additional appropriations of \$127,480.74 for the corona virus relief fund. Rod Miller made a motion to approve the appropriations, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Abstain, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Rick stated that we may want to change next month's meeting time to accommodate filing the budgets and appropriations with the county. Council agreed to have the meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead thanked everyone for the work on the Santa drive around. Samantha stated that we also held the Christmas decorating contest. Scott Blake won the Griswold Award. Teresa Schafer won third place, Mike Megus won second place, and Brandon Tolliver won 1<sup>st</sup> place. Samantha stated that we had kids conduct the judging for the contest.

Police Chief Pete Busack informed council that there were 18 general complaints, 19 citations and 13 warnings issued. Pete stated that he has started organizing records. Rick asked if Pete would keep a log of what he has so that it can be added to the records retention schedule he is working on. Pete stated that there were several pole held up with ratchet straps and he has complained enough to get people to come install new poles. Pete stated that FOP211 went through STOP sticks training. Pete stated that a \$550 kit was donated to the village to mount under the charger. Pete stated that there was a heating issue on the charger that has been since resolved and was cheaper than expected.

## Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council (Continued)

December 17, 2020

Rod Miller thanked Rick and Samantha for lighting up the park. Rod commended the street crew for how well our streets have been maintained.

Mike Flowers stated that he will continue to come to council meetings until Pete Busack is gone. Mike stated that Pete is a classless coward. Mike stated that last meeting he informed council that Pete was caught going through someone's car without their permission. Mike stated that the very next day after the meeting Pete went to this person's house to possibly intimidate them and smooth things over. Mike stated that it was not hearsay. Mike stated that he holds out hope that Cindy and that Rod and Jordan he has no hope for as they both have lied to his face. Jordan asked when she lied to him. Mike stated that at one point, about a year and a half ago Jordan did nothing but bad mouth Pete. Mike stated that he went to Rod three times for help and to discuss his issues. Mike stated that Rod told him that there were only three applications for police chief and we don't offer health insurance and we only get the bottom of the barrel when hiring. Mike stated that Rod told him that we get complaints about Pete all of the time but no one ever comes to council meeting. Mike stated that he took Rods advice and came to the meetings. Mike stated that Pete came to his house and got in his face and without a mask on and gave him a ticket for barking dogs. Mike stated that since then Pete has stolen someone's dog, gotten into his face, went through someone's car without their permission. Mike asked Rod how he could write a letter supporting Pete when he called him the bottom of the barrel. Mike stated that Jordan said she couldn't get information about Pete's work history. Mike stated that he went to several of them and he was able to get lots of information through freedom of information act requests. Jordan stated that we are beating a dead horse because we have discussed this. Mike stated that no, we have not discussed this. Mike stated that Pete was fired from Bellaire for stealing. Rod stated that he doesn't care. Mike asked Rod that he didn't care? Rod stated no. Rod stated that he doesn't care what happened with Pete prior to January and that he was misled the first couple months. Rod stated that since midsummer Pete has done a good job. Rod stated that he has been coming down and researching what Pete is doing on the job and he thinks Pete is doing a good job. Rod stated that anything that has happened in the past is irrelevant. Mike stated that every single place that he spoke to about Pete thinks that Bethesda is a laughing stock. Rod stated that Mike is beating a dead horse and that he can cry for the next 15 minutes or be quiet. Mike stated that he isn't going to quit and that either Rod doesn't care about this town or he is corrupt. Mayor Burkhead asked if we could put off them fight for tonight. Samantha stated that it is Christmas and we don't need to fight this evening and do this another time. Mike Agreed.

Dirk asked everyone to hold a moment of silence for Mayor Stan Sobel. Stan lived in Bethesda for years and then lived in Belmont and became their mayor and worked with Bethesda on a lot of things. Stan was a very good man.

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Cindy Foose made a motion to go into executive session to discuss wages and the pay ordinance, at 7:12 p.m., seconded by Rod Miller, Jay - Yes, Ruth - Yes, Jordan - Yes, Carol - Yes, Cindy - Yes, Rod - Yes.

At 8:10p.m. Mayor Samantha Burkhead declared executive session over.

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Jordan Castello made a motion to approve the advertising that we are hiring a part time police officer, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Council discussed a change to the housekeeping ordinance to allow for the part time police chief's position to be eligible for vacation pay based on the average worked hours and will accrue based on the tenure schedule of the housekeeping ordinance. Council agreed that position does not receive sick pay nor holiday pay. However the position would receive time and a half for holidays worked. Cindy Foose made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Jordan Castello, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve the housekeeping ordinance 2020-2 with the above changes, seconded by Jordan Castello, Jay Van Horn - Abstain, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Jay Van Horn made a motion to hire Mike Shaheen as village solicitor for \$900 for the first year and \$950 beginning the second year and Mike will start on 01/01/21, seconded by Jordan Castello, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Motion to pay bills by Ruth Saffell, 2nd by Carol Merritt, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Jordan Castello, 2nd by Rod Miller, with a unanimous vote.

**The next meeting will be Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.**