

Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

March 22, 2019

Mayor Marty Lucas called the meeting to order, Chuck Little led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Marty Lucas, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn, Cindy Foose, Solicitor Jeffrey Menoski, Administrator Dirk Davis, Jordan Castello, Chuck Little
Absent: Carol Merritt

Guest(s)

Stephanie Castello, Phil Castello, Pete Busack

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. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the February 2019 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Jordan Castello, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Chuck Little - Yes.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Lucas informed council that we have a property in violation of our property maintenance ordinances. 203 Summitt street is the property in question. Mayor Lucas stated that there are junk vehicles, trash, and possibly a person living in a camper with no utilities. Mayor Lucas asked for council approval to send the resident a certified letter. Rick stated that he believed that under the most current ordinance, that the mayor now has the sole discretion to cite people under the property maintenance ordinance.

Mayor Lucas stated that the Easter Egg Hunt is April 20th at 1pm. Candy has been purchased, and we are going to give away some larger gifts as well as some gift cards to various locations. Jay Van Horn will be the direct of the event. Mayor Lucas stated that on April 8th at 7pm we will be constructing the goodie bags for the kids. Mayor Lucas stated that Victoria Burley, Victoria Powell, Christa Ackerman, and the park board are also helping with the hunt.

Mayor Lucas informed council that Jim Ellis has resigned his position on the park board effective March 31st. Mayor Lucas stated that Debbie Mason will set up as board president. Mayor Lucas stated that he and the park board as recommended Samantha Burkhead to fill Jim's seat. Judge Al Davies will be at the next meeting to swear her in.

Mayor Lucas stated that Dan Carpenter has proposed a design for phase three of the memorial plaza behind the city building. Mayor Lucas stated that this is a project to work towards and it complies with the purchase agreement when we purchased the property.

Administrator Dirk Davis offered his monthly report:

- On March 12th there was a meeting with Murray Energy to discuss the mining that will occur near the sewer plant property. Dirk asked Murray Energy for maps of where the mining will happen. Core samples will be taken near the fault line. Dirk stated that Jordan recommended pictures be taken of the area before the mining starts, in order to monitor subsidence. Jordan will take pictures for us. There will be mining only near the property, not under it.
- Year End reports are done and in everyone's boxes. Please read them over.
- The finance committee met and discussed which route to take for the repairs on the front of the community center. Dirk stated that the recommendation was to use the PVC board. Chuck Little made a motion to approve the repairs that are estimated at around \$5,000, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Jordan Castello - Yes, Chuck Little - Yes.
- We received a \$500 grant from the Belmont County Tourism to put towards police coverage for Chautauqua.
- Backflow inspection will take place between April 8th and April 12th by Steve Cowgill. Business owners should call 740-680-9504 to schedule their backflow device testing. Solicitor Menoski looked into the law pertaining to backflow testing and found that we have the authority to verify and make sure that the inspections occur.
- Dirk is working on a 5 year and 20 year capital improvement projection for the village. Major improvements for 2020-2024 we would like to work on are, new public works vehicles, street pavement improvements, old water line replacements, and alley and storm drainage improvements. Dirk stated that Dave is working on one for the sewer plant, Neil is working on one for the Fire Department, and Pete will be working on one for the Police Department.

Fiscal Officer Burkhead handed out literature regarding the proposed gasoline tax increase. Rick discussed the impact and increase in revenue that would happen for local governments. Rick informed council that since July last year, he has had to advance \$26,000 from the General Fund to the Police fund to fund their operations. Rick stated that this will eventually need to be repaid to the General Fund. Rick stated that the police computer has been installed and the camera system working in the police office. Rick stated that Scott is supposed to be getting with me soon to help get the park cameras up and running again. Rick informed council that the park projects will begin in the next month or so. Rick asked council what their thoughts were on working to get donations and hold a fireworks shoot on the Sunday of Chautauqua July 14th. Council agreed that this was a good idea to try and see how it goes.

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Ruth Saffell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and contracts, at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay - Yes, Cindy - Yes, Ruth - Yes, Jordan - Yes, Chuck – Yes.

At 9:16 p.m. Mayor Lucas declared executive session over.

Mayor Lucas announced that after researching, Ordinance 1370 states that the mayor can notify residents of violation of the property maintenance ordinance. Mayor will notify the resident and give them 30 days to correct the issue and if the violation is still present after an additional 30 days, then the individual is cited into mayors court.

Mayor Lucas informed council that Josh Doudna has resigned his full time position with the village and would like to stay on at his same rate of pay, for on call mechanic work for the village and the fire department. Chuck made a motion to approve these employment changes, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes.

Mayor Lucas stated that he would like to hire James Powell for \$17 per hour with a 6 month probationary period to fill the public works position. Chuck Little made a motion to hire Jimmy at \$17 per hour, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Jordan Castello – NO, Chuck Little – Yes.

Mayor Lucas stated that we have been discussing the police chief position for several months now. Based on finances we need to have a part time police chief at this time. Mayor Stated that he would like to appoint Pete Busack to the position of part time police chief for a 6 month probationary period. Chuck Little made a motion to confirm the appointment, seconded by Cindy Foose. Jay Van Horn - NO, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Jordan Castello – NO, Chuck Little – Yes. Mayor Lucas swore in Pete as Police Chief.

Chief Bucack informed council that there were 18 citations last month. Seven warnings were issued and seven general complaints were responded to. There was one domestic and one arrest was made. Pete stated that the provision cameras have been installed in both patrol cars and the body cams are working. Pete stated that he talked to Momma Beas about painting no parking section in front of the store. Council has already approved this at a past meeting.

Solicitor Menoski presented Ordinance 2019-2 for the first reading. This is a personnel policy regarding non discrimination. Jay and Rick both pointed out a few changes that they would like to see made. Jeff will make some revisions for the second reading. Ruth made a motion to declare tonight the first reading of Ordinance 2019-2, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes. Jeff presented Ordinance 2019-3 which is a social media policy for the village employees. Ruth made a motion to declare tonight the first reading of Ordinance 2019-3, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes. Jeff discussed legislation regarding ducks being a nuisance at the park. Brian Baker from ODNR has gave us some suggestions on how to deal with the issue. Rick explained the Park Board's concern with all of the ducks pooping all over the park and tearing up the banks of the park lake as well as being aggressive towards pedestrians. Jordan stated that she has an issue with the ordinance and that trying to relocate the ducks will kill them from diseases. Jordan stated that she agrees we should make it illegal to drop ducks off at the park. Jordan stated that there was 22 ducks there last time she counted. Jordan stated that she thinks that moving ducks to the small pond would solve some of the problem by keeping them away from the park and the larger lake. Jordan stated that a major portion of the fees is from the Canadian Geese.

Jordan stated that on April 27th from 10am – 3pm there will be a community cleanup day. Jordan stated that JB Green Team is doing a presentation on recycling. Jordan asked residents to come and help clean up the village. Dirk stated that he will post information on the village facebook about it. Jordan stated that the Foundation for Pollinators wants to offer a plot for butterflies and bees in the park possibly.

Dirk stated that he will be ordering no parking signs to place along Belmont Road at the intersection of First Street and Belmont Road.

Mayor Lucas asked for a meeting date change for the next two months. Mayor asked for April's meeting be held on April 17th at 7:30 and May's meeting to be held on May 15th at 7:30. Council agreed. PAPERS PLEASE PUBLISH.

Motion to pay bills by Chuck Little, 2nd by Ruth Saffell, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Ruth Saffell, 2nd by Chuck Little, with a unanimous vote.

The next meeting will be Wednesday April 17th, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Marty Lucas

Fiscal Officer Ricky W. Burkhead Jr.