

4.2

Committee of the Whole Meeting

November 25, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairperson Steve Newbold. Members present were Mayor Joe Behnken, Trustees Arlene Geppert, John Feder, and Debby Politsch. Visitors present were Patty Tisdale and Kyle Tisdale.

Other Business

8.1 Modified Vehicle in Golf Cart classification for registration purposes. This item was addressed first to accommodate the Tisdale's. The vehicle is a modified EZ Go golf cart that looks like a car. Chief Buehler referred this to the Committee for an opinion if said vehicle would be allowable under Ordinance 24-11-1. It was determined that it is a golf cart therefore would fall under this ordinance.

3. Ordinance

3.1 Cargo Container as permanent structure in a residential area. It was determined that there is no existing ordinance that addresses this issue. After consultation with attorney Van Lear Eckert, an ordinance may be drawn up and enacted regarding this matter. The Committee discussed this issue and concluded that a cargo container may be present in a residential area but limited to 60 days before it needs to be removed. An ordinance will be drawn up and placed on the agenda for the December 2, 2024 Regular Board meeting for a vote.

4. Improvements and Grants

4.1 Discussion on CDBG grant award for new sidewalks on Belsha from Jackson to Highland. It was noticed that Volkert was surveying this area recently and the question was asked about this activity. Supt. Chris Remick was not informed prior to the surveying. This is a 2023 grant totaling \$85,000 for the replacement of the existing sidewalk along 4 linear blocks on Belsha. The Village's responsibility for this project is approximately \$43,000. The Board has been concerned about managing expenses for these sidewalk projects but also recognizes the need for such. Returning the grant could be detrimental in obtaining future awards therefore it was concluded to proceed. In the future, the Board is requesting that the Supt. be informed when any contractor is scheduled before work is started.

5. Public Safety EMA New Phone Alert System.

5.1 The existing phone alert system is becoming outdated. It is recommended that a new system be implemented. A 1-year subscription is \$2,876 and a 3 year is \$8,397 which includes updates. Currently the Village pays \$1,976 for the current system. It was decided to have this item placed on the agenda for a vote at the next regular Board meeting.

6. Water and Sewer

6.1 Water Usage Study November 2024. Mayor Behnken presented his study on water usage. He is advocating for the replacement of all of the water meters at a substantial cost requiring that money be borrowed. The rationale is that the newer meters would be more accurate and thus improve the water purchased from KWD vs what is billed to the customers. The Village has systematically replaced

approximately 130 meters at this time with little change noticed. It was also discussed changing the threshold from the current 1000 gallons increments to 100 gallons. The Village currently experiences a 20% discrepancy whereas a 10% loss is the goal. Members of the Board feel that proceeding with the incremental replacement of the meters is the course that should be followed at this time.

6.2 Water Monthly Report October 2024. Discussed in 6.1

8. Other business

8.2 Discussion on option to not letter the police pick-up truck. Defer lettering at this time as it may be beneficial to the police program that Sgt. Renner is participating in. Ok to re-letter the current vehicles.

8.3 Status of 1105 South Mill Street judicial deed project. St. Clair County sold the subject property from under us for \$750. To summarize, for \$750 the owner gets the property, with the demolition costs to be paid by the Village.

8.4 Village Clerk office closed on New Year's Eve at noon. Employees paid for the full day. OK

8.5 Christmas gifts for employees. Gift cards to local restaurants as follows: \$50 for full-time and \$25 for part-time employees.

9 Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Arlene and seconded by Debby. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Steve Newbold