

Mayor Opelt called the regular meeting of Council to order on Tuesday, March 2nd, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. A prayer was offered by Douglas Wegman followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present for roll call were Vandersall, Panning, Sharp, Wegman, Brann and Barnes. Also attending the meeting were Police Chief/Safety Director, Robert Vespi; Solicitor, Michael Marsh; BPA member, Chuck Schulte; Jordan Fouts from the Sentinel-Tribune; Doug Avery; and resident, Eric Campbell.

The minutes from February 17th, 2004 were reviewed. As there were no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as submitted.

Bills in the amount of \$3,491.44 plus \$350.00 to Dunrite Construction for repairing Council Chamber windows were presented for approval of payment. Sharp moved to pay the bills including Dunrite Construction. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

BPA: Vespi reported he and Nelson Busdeker obtained quotes of \$22,695.00 for a two-wheel drive pickup truck and \$24,995.00 for a four-wheel drive truck including a snowplow prep package. They ordered the four-wheel drive truck, then put the order on hold to bring to Council because at last night's meeting the BPA felt they should stick with a two-wheel drive truck. Schulte explained the BPA feels they do not need a four-wheel drive vehicle as it would cost more to maintain, take more gas to run and they would rather use the money for repairing waterlines, etc. Panning thinks a four-wheel drive would be useful for everybody and could be used to clean snow from the water and sewer plants, alleys, etc. He looks at it like an insurance policy. It would be there, if needed.

At 7:45 p.m. Vandersall moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

Council reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

Vandersall moved to go with the opinion of Council and purchase a four-wheel drive truck. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance #1280, Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Lease Agreement with Amplex Electric, Inc. for the Placement of Certain Equipment on the Village Water Tower to Facilitate Internet Service for Citizens was brought up for vote. Sharp moved to pass Ordinance #1280. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance #1289, Ordinance Amending Ordinance Number 630 Concerning the Village Income Tax, had its third reading. Brann moved to pass Ordinance #1289. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

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Ordinance #1290, An Ordinance to make Permanent Appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Pemberville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2004, had its second reading. Sharp moved to suspend the rules. Seconded by Panning, the motion carried unanimously. Brann moved to pass Ordinance #1290 as an emergency. Seconded by Panning, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance #1291, An Ordinance for the Village of Pemberville, Ohio, Adopting New Sections 71.18 Through 71.22 of the Ohio Basic Code, Effective Immediately, to Reflect Current State Prohibitions Regarding Driving Under Suspension or in Violation of License Restrictions, Operating a Motor Vehicle without a Valid License, Driving under DUI Suspension, Driving under Financial Responsibility, Law Suspension or Cancellation, Failure to Reinstate a License, and Affirmative Defenses Related Thereto, had its first reading. Brann moved to suspend the rules. Seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously. Brann moved to pass Ordinance #1291 as an emergency. Seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR: NOMMA 2004 Annual meeting is March 25th at the Pemberville Legion Hall.

Received a letter commending the Police Department for their presence at the school and Officer Ford for supporting the kids at the Geography Bee.

Presented a proposal to increase fees for Zoning and Subdivision Issues as recommended by Planning Commission Chairman, David Miesmer. Non-profit organizations would be exempt. Vandersall moved to approve the increase in fees. Seconded by Panning, the motion carried unanimously.

Joe Hirzel suggested we establish a Historic District on Front Street from the east railroad tracks to the west walking trail. Some of the advantages are: it would increase property values, make it easier to approve Victorian type businesses in this area and make grant monies available. It would not make the homeowners do anything special. Barnes moved to allow the Mayor to put together a committee and bring suggestions back to Council. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously. Vandersall volunteered to be on this committee.

The Keller's responded to the letter they received from Council that they do not want to accept any of the proposals offered to them.

Doug Avery would like to purchase a lot from the Keller's to build a house. They cannot sell any more lots without a variance and Council agreed the issues with the Keller's need to be resolved before a variance is granted.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VANDERSALL: Feels that Council is being taken out of the mainstream of decision making regarding line items and would like to see that rescinded, would like the Personnel Director to report to Council, would like to make the Town Hall Park a historic tree park instead of using street repair money for a parking lot and the forklift that was purchased is too large for the backhoe. She is concerned that some of the pressure regarding the public restrooms in town is coming from businesses that are not in town and don't contribute to the General Fund.

PANNING: Discussed the letter going to residents about their sidewalks at the last committee meeting. There are about 1,000 feet of sidewalks that need repaired.

SHARP: The issue of the old street garage is not solved. The committee is comparing the prices to keep and repair it against tearing down, paving, constructing a building for the water tower controls and an easy to clean unisex bathroom. The cost to replace the roof is \$11,500.00 plus heating is a big issue and if restroom fixtures were changed, they would have to meet ADA requirements. It would cost \$6,500.00 to have the building torn down, \$5,000.00 for paving plus engineering fees and cost of a restroom and a small building for the controls.

The Township will fix the Welcome sign on Wegman Road. The metal entrance signs on North River Road and Rees Road need to be replaced.

BRANN: The Fire Department has the approval to purchase a new ambulance. They are also looking into repainting and replacing carpet in the fire hall.

PIMA should ask Council to approve Cruisin' Nites. The Chief responded that they will be meeting with him.

VESPI: The Tree City USA Awards program will be held April 21st in Montpelier at a cost of \$15.00 per person. Sharp moved to allow the Tree City Committee to go to the conference. Seconded by Brann, the motion carried unanimously.

Contacted Sanderson CMI regarding a payroll type program for the computer. The cost would be \$11,840.00, which would pay for training, take care of W-2's, automatic deductions, keep track of sick-time, vacation time, etc. There would be an annual fee of \$975.00 for software support. Barnes stated the equipment will last four or five years maximum and recommended the cost to sub out payroll be investigated and a comparison done. Barnes moved to look at outsourcing payroll verses keeping it in house. Seconded by Brann, the motion carried unanimously.

Vespi was asked to contact the Pool Board for Financial Statements from last year and projections for this year.

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Eric Campbell has concerns about vehicles not stopping for responders to an emergency. He suggested lighted signs that automatically come on when the siren goes off so people know that trucks are coming out. This will be discussed at the next Safety meeting.

Vespi pointed out that firefighters in personal vehicles with lights or not still have to obey traffic rules and do not have the same rights as marked police cars, fire trucks or an ambulance.

At 9:18 p.m. Vandersall moved to go into executive session to discuss property. Seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously.

Council reconvened at 10:05 p.m. As there was no further business to be brought before Council at this time, Vandersall moved, seconded by Barnes, to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor

Clerk