

Mayor Opelt called the regular meeting of Council to order on Tuesday, March 16th, 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; Jordan Fouts from the Sentinel-Tribune; Mary Ellen Gedert; and residents, Eric Campbell and Larry Bockbrader.

The minutes from March 2nd, 2004 were reviewed. It was noted that the motions to suspend the rules and to pass Ordinance #1291 were seconded by Barnes instead of the reported Brann. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Bills in the amount of \$15,435.12 were presented for approval of payment. Brann moved, seconded by Barnes, to pay the bills. The motion carried unanimously.

BPA: The Mayor questioned the capabilities of the sewer plant and asked for a five-year plan for infrastructure.

Vespi reported they discussed the upcoming Joyce Avenue sewer project, are looking at May or June to replace the Bridge Street pump station and briefly touched on a location for a new water tower. The North Water Plant property is a proposed site but the BPA wants to make sure it would be the right place. It was decided to ask them to report back to Council by the first meeting in May on a location for the water tower.

Ordinance #1262, Joint Resolution/Ordinance had its third reading. Sharp moved to pass Ordinance #1262. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

A line item transfer of funds was made within the General Fund and reported to Council.

The Pool Board is requesting permission to close Memorial Drive May 26 - 30 for their Danger Bros. Fundraiser. Brann moved to approve the request. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

A notice was received from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control, that all permits to sell alcoholic beverages in the Village will expire June 1, 2004. Instructions were included on "How to object to the issuance or renewal of a liquor permit." No objections were aired.

MAYOR: Chief Vespi and Auxiliary members volunteered at the Wood County Youth Olympics sponsored by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Presented Bob Custer a proclamation on his retirement.

Will be Postmaster for a day at the Pemberville Post Office on Friday, March 19th.

The Economic Development Committee has four people so far. Two people have responded to be on the Historic District Committee.

(Continued.....)

Asked Chief Vespi to give a monthly report on overtime usage.

PIMA is asking to have their permit approved for "Cruisin' Nights" June 3, July 1, August 5 and September 2. Sharp moved to approve PIMA's permit. Seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously.

Is proposing an Annexation Share Project (ASP) where the Village would pay 20% of water and sewer extension costs for newly annexed property that is contiguous to the Village and includes an existing building. This project would run for one year (April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005).

Eric Campbell aired some questions and concerns, which included the "Postal Patron Only" sign on the public right-of-way, the mud at the Post Office where people get out of their cars, the curb cut that hasn't been done at the bottom of the hill by Beeker's store, how can Council justify the huge increase for zoning variances and cost of copies and when will Cedar Street be made one way.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MAYOR & VESPI: The Safety Committee talked about phasing in stop signs when the weather is better. They would like to make Cedar Street one-way to Cherry Street on a 60-day trial basis (April 15 - June 15), which would give 12 additional parking spaces on Front and Cedar streets. Vandersall moved to do a 60-day trial of one-way on Cedar. Seconded by Wegman, the motion carried unanimously.

WEGMAN: Wanted to know how to get rid of paint cans and used oil. The Mayor will research where to recycle these types of materials and the information will be put in the newsletter and on the website.

VANDERSALL: The Personnel Committee discussed an apprenticeship program that would be half the cost of a certified person. The Department of Labor will help get it going. Vandersall moved to get definite input and have someone talk to Council about the apprenticeship program. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

They are looking at removing the lineman section from the wage ordinance but the Personnel Director wants to research it a little more.

PANNING: The Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks Committee will meet Thursday at 4:30 p.m. and go over letters they have received from residents and bids for replacing the sidewalks.

SHARP: The old street garage is back at square one. The big issue is that it is zoned residential and that will be difficult to change. The appraisal value is \$45,000.00 and a parcel split has been done.

PIMA requests the building be kept for restrooms and they would fix them up. Mary Ellen Gedert suggested building new restrooms. Barnes said we should have a five or ten year plan before selling the property. Some of the other Council members were in favor of selling it but the zoning would have to be changed first. Panning moved that Council seek a variance for the old street garage property. Seconded by Wegman, vote was as follows: Panning, yes; Wegman, yes; Vandersall, yes; Sharp, yes; Brann, yes; Barnes, no. The motion carried by majority vote.

BARNES: Will be getting information on grants for downtown revitalization. One is a \$7,500.00 matching grant for a total of \$15,000.00 and the other is a \$400,000.00 matching grant that can be used for just about anything: downtown restoration, parking, sewer, water, etc. Businesses could also tap into this but a 5-10 year plan is needed.

Called for information about wind generators for an alternate source of power.

CHIEF VESPI: Presented picture samples of new signs for some of the Village entrances. Council chose one for him to get cost estimates.

Received a financial report for the Pemberville Pool. Council would like a breakdown on payroll and have someone come to a meeting to answer some questions. The water and electric bill should not be listed as an expense because they are paid by the Village. The Clerk will find out from Solicitor Marsh if money given to the pool from the Permanent Improvement Fund can be used for payroll.

At 9:17 p.m. Sharp moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

Council reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

Moving the police station was brought up. Brann and Vandersall both stated they would not be in favor of moving it from its current location. The Mayor said he would bring a proposal to Council and they could vote on it at that time.

As there was no further business to be brought before Council at this time, Panning moved, seconded by Barnes, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk