

Mayor Opelt called the regular meeting of Council to order on Tuesday, January 4, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. He offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present for roll call were Panning, Sharp, Brann and Barnes. Vandersall was absent. Also attending the meeting were Police Chief/Personnel Supervisor, Robert Vespi; Solicitor, Michael Marsh; Adam Wright from the Sentinel-Tribune; Daniel Martin, Jody Madaras and residents, Gustava Oberhouse, Eric Campbell, Joanne Busdeker, Sarah Harrison and Dee Beckman.

The minutes from December 21, 2004 were reviewed. As there were no additions or corrections, the minutes stand approved as submitted.

Bills in the amount of \$265.81 were presented for approval of payment. Sharp moved, seconded by Brann, to pay the bills. The motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor presented his State of the Village address as follows:

"2004 began with a new mayor and one new council member. Monthly calendars were made available to council; meetings were kept to a minimum and council asked to go into executive session only four times.

Permit fees were increased, and several ordinances were updated and strengthen including Tennant Information, Dismantled or Inoperable Vehicle Storage, Noxious Weeds and Peddlers, Solicitors and Venders.

Other ordinances passed concerned the addition of stop signs on village side streets, bicycles in the downtown, and lottery winnings.

The Joyce Avenue project and Bridge Street Lift Station replacement was completed to great satisfaction and Amplex was installed for resident use.

The lot on the corner of Main and Pine was completed and named Mason Park.

After much vandalism and age, council agreed to remove the Gazebo from Memorial Park and plans are being made for a replacement. Grants were received for both picnic tables and trash containers also for Memorial Park.

We received a great response from citizens who repaired or replaced their sidewalks throughout the village.

The village web site was updated and council minutes have been placed on the site on a more regular basis.

A comprehensive village directory was compiled, printed and distributed without the use of tax dollars. As another cost savings, the community newsletter was printed only twice during 2004.

Efforts were made to reduce overtime pay and will continue to be monitored during 2005.

Much research was completed on a tower for wireless service, but at a cost of \$600,000 and a limited number of customers, it was deemed cost prohibitive.

Meetings were held with the Boy Scouts, Senior Citizens and Pool Board to address their needs and will continue into 2005.

A TMACOG grant was submitted for downtown revitalization, the mayor and village supervisor appeared before the committee and a decision should be forth coming in February.

The mayor conducted five weddings, and presented proclamations for scouting, anniversaries and retirements along with special award recognitions. In addition, special days for Modine and Hercules Stamping Company were held with the help of the village merchants.

Council agreed to purchase the old Ford garage for additional retail space for downtown along with submitting a planning grant application for the first phase of the CDBG Downtown Revitalization. Both projects will continue into 2005.

While other communities around us are looking at a deficit, we will end 2004 with an approximate carry over of \$15,000. However, as income decreases and expenses increase we must tighten our belts in 2005 and look for additional development that will provide us with additional income.

We are saddened to say goodbye to Mr. Doug Wegman who served this council and community for many years, but we look forward to welcoming his replacement.

This is only a small over-view of the work performed by the mayor, council and village employees. We have a great group of talented, dedicated people, who when working together with open minds and hearts can provide the services needed to build a better Pemberville."

Council has thirty days to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Doug Wegman. Six people have expressed interest in filling out his term: Eric Campbell, Keith Cherry, Mike Dierker, Brandon Donaldson, Ron Golightly and Marsha Mazur.

Sharp stated she has worked with Keith Cherry on Planning Commission and finds him to be very level headed, approaches a situation logically looking at both sides, is even tempered, conscientious and responsible. Sharp moved to appoint Keith Cherry to fill the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Barnes, vote was as follows: Sharp, yes; Barnes, yes; Panning, no; Brann, yes. Solicitor Marsh advised that four affirmative votes were needed for the appointment so the motion didn't pass.

Panning moved to appoint Eric Campbell to fill the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Barnes, vote was as follows: Panning, yes; Barnes, yes; Sharp, no; Brann, yes. The motion didn't pass.

Barnes moved to appoint Mike Dierker to fill the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Panning, vote was as follows: Barnes, yes; Panning, yes; Sharp, no; Brann, yes. The motion didn't pass.

Barnes moved to appoint Brandon Donaldson to fill the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Panning, the motion carried unanimously.

Sharp moved to nominate Panning as President Pro Tempore. Seconded by Brann, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance #1311, An Ordinance Approving, Adopting and Enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code, 2005 Edition as the Code of Ordinances for the Municipality of Pemberville, Ohio, had its first reading.

Approval is needed for Contract #3720 with CMI for 2005 Software Support for Income Tax and Utility billing at a cost of \$2,800.00. Barnes moved to approve the contract with CMI. Seconded by Panning, the motion carried unanimously.

Line item transfers for December 22 and 30 were reported to Council.

MAYOR: Congratulated the students from Eastwood listed in Who's Who, which included Sharp's daughter.

Will submit a list of Council committees at the next meeting. There will be no changes unless requested.

There is a beam under the Opera House roof that is rotted and needs replaced. There was a concern that allowing Opera House volunteers to repair it could bring up a liability issue and perhaps Village employees could fix it. Sharp was put in charge of the project as chairman of the Lands and Buildings Committee.

Is meeting with Pastor Miller about ways to make the pool self-sufficient.

Is having trouble getting TTL Associates, Inc. and Jeff Thornton together to look at the "Old Ford Garage." They will try again on Friday.

A letter was received from Bill Kuhlman, 215 Bond Street, regarding snow removal in the Village, especially in the alleys. He is asking that a pass be made down the alleys when the streets are being done, as there are over fifty-three families that have garages and driveways connected to alleys. Another concern was that an employee was seen using town equipment to clean his driveway before some of the streets and alleys had been touched. Council agreed to continue a policy made eight years ago allowing employees to use Village equipment to plow their private properties so they can get out to work.

Has been trying to hold off the media on the cave situation but The Blade was here today to do a story and Channel 11 is coming tomorrow.

Will be going to the County Commissioners on Thursday for the last request for \$10,000.00 and \$2,000.00 from the revolving

loan fund. We are still on the list for the TMACOG Grant with one more level to make.

Brann moved to purchase a plow for the new water truck for approximately \$4,000.00. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PANNING: The Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks Committee will meet January 20 and go over sidewalks that didn't get repaired.

BRANN: The Fire Committee met December 30 with the Township Trustees, Fire Chief, Assistant Chief and Brann in attendance. They are fixing up the inside of the building, received grant money last year for radios and pagers, and will try for another grant for a tanker.

Suggested purchasing a cordless phone with an answering machine for the office. The Mayor would like it tied into an improved phone system. Vespi will get a cost from Verizon.

Gustava Oberhouse wanted to thank Doug Wegman for the many years he has spent serving on Council and is sure he will be missed. She assumed that Council members had resumes for the vacant Council seat ahead of time and that each person was interviewed.

As there was no further business to be brought before Council at this time, Brann moved, seconded by Barnes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk