

Mayor Opelt called the regular meeting of Council to order on Tuesday, February 1, 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, Vandersall, Sharp, Brann, Donaldson and Barnes. Also attending the meeting were Police Chief/Personnel Supervisor, Robert Vespi; Solicitor, Michael Marsh; Adam Wright from the Sentinel-Tribune; Marti Zeek, Bill Beard and residents--Eric Campbell, Bud Kahler, Heinz & Inga Offerman, Dale Bruning, Bob Bruning, Kathy Barnes, Joanne Busdeker, Sandy & David Miesmer, Norm Romaker, Terry Hansen, Dick & Nedra Sheets.

The minutes from January 18, 2005 were reviewed. As there were no additions or corrections, the minutes stand approved as submitted.

Bills in the amount of \$6,378.45 were presented for approval of payment. Brann moved, seconded by Barnes, to pay the bills. The motion carried unanimously.

**BPA:** Decided to move forward with the Wastewater Treatment Plant Feasibility Study. They are getting cost estimates for engineering services to loop the waterline from Bierley Avenue to Water Street. The BPA also approved the Historical Society's request to waive the tap in fee for putting a waterline on the Furry property. They would just pay the cost of materials.

David Miesmer read an open letter to Council and Residents of Pemberville that stated he has been on the Village Planning Commission for 20 plus years, past member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and was Director of the Wood County Planning Commission for 28 years. On January 19 he was informed that he was to be replaced on the Village Planning Commission by action ratified by Council on January 18. When he asked the Mayor the reason for his dismissal, he was told, "Council passed the resolution and he is "negative". Miesmer feels citizens that give their time freely should not be subject to dismissal for expressing opinions and asked Council to pursue this matter since the decision was not made after a full and open debate. His term didn't expire until 1/08.

Sharp read a statement saying she was stunned to hear of Dave's dismissal and that it was done without discussion or issues raised. She questioned the motive behind the removal and described Miesmer as fair, logical, consistent and has an incredible knowledge of zoning requirements.

Panning moved to reconsider the motion to accept changes in committees. Seconded by Donaldson, vote was as follows: Panning, yes; Donaldson, yes; Vandersall, yes; Sharp, yes; Brann, yes; Barnes, no. The motion carried by majority vote. Vote to replace Dave Miesmer on Planning Commission with an appointment to be made in February was as follows: Panning, no; Vandersall, no; Sharp, no; Brann, no; Donaldson, no; Barnes, yes. The motion failed by majority vote.

(Continued.....)

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 third reading. Barnes moved to pass Ordinance #1311. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

Sharp moved to pass Ordinance #1143, Ordinance Authorizing Agreement with the Board of Wood County Commissioners for the Improvement of Bierley Avenue, as an emergency. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

The Village received the Petition for Annexation papers approved by the County Commissioners for the Konzen property at the corner of College Avenue and Hickory Street. There is a waiting period of 60 days before Council gives its approval.

**MAYOR:** The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friendship Village Agreement with Rodinghausen, Germany will be celebrated Tuesday, March 22, at the Legion Hall. Sharp suggested that we recognize Rodinghausen on signs coming into the Village.

The Wood County Mayors Association will meet February 28 at the Pemberville Legion Hall.

Will be swearing in five new Auxiliary Police members.

The bridges are not being shoveled as well as several homes on Bierley Avenue, Bridge Street and the Water Plant. He suggested the Police ask people to clean their walks.

Received a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers saying we need to have a floodwall. There is a possibility they might put one in with no cost to us.

Dr. Vicki Frobose would like to see a canoe/kayak drop along the Portage River in Pemberville. She is putting a program together to bring to Council.

There is a bolt missing from the top railing of the Opera House emergency exit. Sharp will take care of having it fixed.

Has the report back of the Environmental Study of the "Old Ford Garage" and nothing was found. A more extensive search could be made for an additional \$9,000.00. The Mayor felt that wasn't necessary and will sign the purchase agreement tomorrow and go ahead with the bank loan.

Thank you letters were received from Denny Henline for services received from the Electric Department and Roger and Betty Kirk for help given to them during the flood.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BRANN:** A rental company is missing a brand new portable pump that was used for the flood.

(Continued.....)

**BARNES:** The Economic Development Committee will meet Monday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m.

**VESPI:** Recommended the hiring of Brad Tussing as Wastewater/Water Treatment Plant Operator Apprentice. He is from Custar, Ohio and a graduate of the Owens program. Vandersall moved to approve the recommendation of Brad Tussing. Seconded by Sharp, the motion carried unanimously.

Contacted Verizon for the cost to update the Village phone system. Options are to purchase eight digital phones outright at a cost of \$5,600.00 or to lease eight phones for three years, which would include updates for \$126.00 per month. The price includes the installation of the whole system and would connect the Town Hall and Police Department. Sharp moved to upgrade the phone system using the lease program. Seconded by Vandersall, the motion carried unanimously.

Upgraded Nextel phones for Village employees including walkie-talkie capabilities would cost \$120.00 per phone. It was suggested that we ask for a couple to try before making a decision.

Nedra Sheets told Council that inconsistency is the worst thing a town can have. She presented a list of things that would be desirous in an ideal town that can all be found in Pemberville including businesses, historical sites, restaurants, activities, clubs, churches, waterfront properties, etc. She said there can be problems and we can disagree but we can still work together and be comrades. She challenged herself, the Mayor, Council and all citizens to work together to make this the best town we can have.

As there was no further business to be brought before Council at this time, Panning moved, seconded by Brann, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

---

Mayor

Clerk