

Mayor Opelt called the regular meeting of Council to order on Tuesday, January 3, 2006 at 7:30p.m. Brandt offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present for roll call were Barnes, Brandt, Campbell, Madaras, Miesmer, and Mullholand. Also in attendance were Adam Wright from the Sentinel Tribune; James Dobson, Martha Dobson, Pam Campbell-Hobart, Sandy Jurack, Larry Bockbrader, Tyler Barnes, Kathy Barnes, and Russell Eby.

The minutes from December 20, 2005 were reviewed and accepted with the following addition: Campbell requested that a statement made by Chief Vespi be added that the Ohio Revised Code supersedes the Employee Handbook.

Bills in the amount of \$2,188.21 were presented for payment. Brandt moved, seconded by Madaras, to pay the bills. The motion carried unanimously.

Shared a letter written by Chief Vespi stating that he was unable to attend this council meeting, but wished to extend his sincere congratulations to the newly elected Council members and looked forward to working with them.

The Mayor presented the 2005 State of the Village report.

2005 began with a flood of the southern business district along with several residences on Water, Bridge, and Bierley Streets and the school valley. Once the water resided hundreds of volunteers along with the fire and police department were thanked for the countless hours they provided during the relief effort.

The village was hit by two untimely deaths as we lost long time Fire Chief Herb Martin and Council President Kurt Panning. These two gentlemen will be long remembered for their service to their community.

Council updated and enacted several ordinances dealing with parking and golf cart use among others.

Council, to attract future development within the village, approved an Enterprise Zone and Community Reinvestment Area. Annexation of 3.8 acres was approved for a two million dollar plus condo addition on College Ave that will begin construction in 2006.

The village received a \$30,000 CDBG Downtown Revitalization Planning Grant to submit a Tier 2 Proposal in 2006. A grant of \$50,000 was awarded to the village for renovation of the public restrooms in the Old Fire Hall on Walnut Street. TMACOG notified the village that we would be given a grant of \$303,000 for Streetscape improvements. A grant of \$5250 was received for a new fence at the village ball diamond. A total of \$388,250 in grant monies was awarded to the village in 2005.

The village celebrated the 10 Year Anniversary of The Pemberville/Rodinghausen Friendship Communities with a celebration at the Legion Hall. In August several residents attended a ceremony in Rodinghausen that renamed their town square, Pemberville Platz. An Economic Mini Summit was held in October with great success, attracting area business owners, county and TMACOG officials.

The mayor performed one wedding, down from five the previous year and represented the village at several county and state meetings, anniversaries, Eagle Scout Inductions and funerals.

Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Phillips resigned and was replaced by Sue Frizzell. Four new members were elected to Council and Mr. Aring retained his seat on the Board of Public Affairs.

Financially, our yearly carryover was more than in the last two years but less than previous years. Overall 2005 proved to be a year of change and accomplishment. 2006 appears to be bright but challenging. All who sit around this table have been given an incredible responsibility.

The knowledge and experience represented here is extensive. I encourage you to make decisions based on research and to make yourself available by attending community events and serving on community committees. This way you will know what the residents of this community want and believe.

Don't listen to rumors; if you do, they will take all your time. Instead, invite people to council meetings and encourage them to get involved. Let them be part of the solution, not the problem. Share your concerns with Council members and then bring them to Council. Be positive and not critical when writing or talking with the local media.

We all know that income continues to lessen as expenditures continue to grow. This is no ones fault; it is a fact of life. Let's be wise in our spending and open to attracting development and other sources that will lessen the burden on our current residents.

We are 1369 of the luckiest people in the World. We live in a safe, clean and enjoyable community that is the envy of many. But together, we can help build an even better community without losing the quality of life that we all cherish. While we will not always agree, I challenge you, Council, to show this community and the entire state that the Pemberville Village Council is a TEAM working together and supporting one another. I look forward to working with all of you.

Ordinance 1344, An ordinance to Authorize and Direct the Municipality to Execute a Mutual Aid Agreement with Interstate and Intrastate Participating Municipalities with Municipal Electric Systems in Order to be Able to Receive and Provide Mutual Assistance During Times of Emergencies through the Interchange and use of Personnel and Equipment, had its third reading. Brandt moved to pass Ordinance 1344, seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 1345, Ordinance Authorizing the Placement of Stop Signs for all Four Corners of Main Street and Oak Street, Making Said Intersection a "Four-Way Stop" had its third reading. Discussion included Barnes asking if that corner was analyzed or watched to determine need. Opelt advised a survey was not conducted. Normally Council takes the suggestions or advice of the residents in that neighborhood. Chief Vespi reviewed and found no problem creating a four-way stop. Barnes moved to pass Ordinance 1345, seconded by Campbell, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 1345, Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for and Enter Into a Grant Agreement or Agreements with the State of Ohio Department of Natural Resources for Ash Reduction Grant and/or Ash Replacement Grant Funds, had its third reading. Extensive discussion was held starting with the question of if we received the grant were we obligated to follow through with cutting down the trees. The Mayor advised if the grant was awarded and accepted by the village we would need to use those monies as specified in the grant. As no one wants to see the trees cut down, the council would like to receive more information in regards to treating the trees. Caution was also shared regarding selection of contractors and treatments. A public information sharing meeting has been set for 7:30pm on Jan 12. Council was also reminded that if the Village was awarded the grant it could be declined. Madaras moved to pass Ordinance 1346, seconded by Barnes, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Clerks Report:**

The use of E-mail will be implemented to send the minutes and agenda. Those who have difficulty receiving the information may stop in the office to review prior to the meetings.

#### **Mayors Report:**

As a new President of Council was needed, Opelt asked for nominations from the Council. Barnes moved to nominate Brandt citing his previous experience on Council, and business background; seconded by Madaras,

the vote was as follows: Barnes, yes; Brandt, abstained; Madaras, yes; Campbell, no; Miesmer, yes; Mullholand, yes. Motion carried by majority vote.

Shared committee appointments and reminded the Council they were invited to participate on any committee and assignments were made to give a committee structure. Committees are to determine and submit calendar times so that the new times can be posted for the year. A report form was given to each council member that can be used in lieu of "minutes" to document the meeting as such documentation needs to be given to the clerk/treasurer for the file. He also asks each committee to complete and return a 5-year plan listing, ideas, future projects and needs.

Reminded Council of the budget meeting to be held on Jan 11 at 7:00 p.m. and asked that they bring anything that needs to be considered for the budget.

Advised that the pool committee is formally resigning and management will fall upon the village. We will need to talk more in detail and perhaps the Joint Recreation Board and Committee can come up with some ideas.

Wood County Mayors Association Meeting will be January 24<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. Dinner and a presentation on Pemberville will be given. The Mayor asks all Council to attend.

Spoke with Chief Martin regarding the fire at the Plastic Factory. Chief Martin advised it is still under investigation and no cause has been determined. The Police and Fire department were commended for their hard work.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources has announced Wood County was allocated \$21,648 funding for the 13<sup>th</sup> round of the Nature Works recreation program. On a positive note, the Village has not received an award since round 2. The deadline to apply is February 1 for this 75/25% grant.

### **Committee Reports/Comments:**

Barnes: Economic Development will meet the second Monday, 7:30, after the cemetery meeting. Barnes questioned the possibility of keeping tapes longer than our present policy of one month. The time period of a year would allow persons to review past meetings. It was also noted that these tapes would also be public record and a means of copying them would be needed if requested.

Barnes moved to establish a policy of keeping the tapes for a period of one year; seconded by Miesmer. The vote was as follows: Barnes, yes; Miesmer, yes; Brandt, Yes; Campbell, no; Madaras, yes; Mullholand, no. Motion carried by majority vote.

Madaras: Contacted Howard Shirling regarding the little league fence. Mr. Shirling advised he did not have a lot of knowledge of who was to pay for what and they felt that their portion was to provide labor. After seeing and understanding the grant, Mr. Shirling advised he would need to speak with Karen Young and Bo Vespi in regards to available funds. The grant work needs to be completed by 12/31/06.

At 8:30 p.m. Brandt moved to go into executive session, to talk about property; Madaras seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Council reconvened at 9:00 p.m. with Brandt making a motion to bring council back into session; Madaras seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Madaras moved, and seconded by Mullholand, that the mayor contact Feller, Finch and Associates, to file an application on behalf of the Village for the Nature Works Recreation Grant at the cost of approximately \$250.00. The motion carried unanimously.

As there was no further business to be brought before Council at this time, Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.