

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING
January 4, 2011**

Mayor Opelt opened the January 4, 2011 meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present at the regular meeting of council were Bowman, Bockbrader, Campbell, Cox, Fuerst, and King (entered at 8:12pm). Others present were Harold Brown, Eileen Schuerman, Vic Schuerman, Ruth Phillips, Bud Kahler, Dick Fox, Ed Wozniak, Ruth Kruse, Doris Melcher, John Stewart, Russ Abke, Marcy Abke, Dave Bruning, Brandon Donaldson, Gene Steele, Gussie Oberhouse, Carol Bailey, John Bailey, Russ Eby, Lynne Bowman, Peter Johnston, Keith Madaras, Keith Cherry, and the clerk.

Minutes: Cox moved and Bowman seconded to approve the December 21, 2010 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Bowman made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$ 6,040.64 and Bockbrader seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor:

Dick Fox expressed concern with excessively barking dogs. He asked Council to address this situation as a noise issue stating that he sleeps during the day and they can be heard with his doors and windows closed. Pemberville Police, Wood County Sheriffs, and the Wood County Dog Warden have all been called but it only eliminates the barking for a short time. Campbell asked that the issue be enforced as addressed in the Ohio Basic Code as a misdemeanor.

Mayor Opelt distributed 2011 Committee Appointments.

2011 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:

Economic Development – meets first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm

Gordon Bowman –Chairman / Larry Bockbrader / Nigel Davies / Phil Farmer / Dave Marsh / Joe Hirzel

Finance, Purchasing, Budget, & Records – meets as needed

Marge Cox - Chairman / Mayor Opelt / Ryan Fuerst / Stephanie Bowe

Flood – meets as needed

Eric Campbell - Chairman / Larry Bockbrader / Gene Steele

Parks/Swimming Pool – meets fourth Thursday at 7pm

Christian King – Chairman /

Personnel – meets second Thursday at 7pm

Gordon Bowman - Chairman / Marge Cox / Dean Krukemyer

Planning Commission – meets third Wednesday at 7pm

Gordon Bowman – Chairman / Larry Bockbrader

Lands & Buildings, Streets, Alley & Sidewalks– meets third Thursday at 3pm

Eric Campbell – Chairman / Ryan Fuerst

Safety – meets as needed

Mayor Opelt - Chairman / Christian King

Tree Commission – meets last Thursday of each month at 3pm

Marge Cox – Chairman / John Lockard / Ruth Phillips / Brian Myers / Terry Nigh / Dan Piotrowski / Pat Vandersall

Utilities – meets first and third Mondays at 7pm

Marge Cox – Chairman / Larry Bockbrader

Mayor Opelt opened the floor to attendees to comments prior to asking for a nomination of President of Council. Vic Schuerman asked if each of the candidates could explain how they believe they can improve Pemberville if they serve in this position. The duties of the President of Council were discussed. Ruth Phillips praised Councilman Bowman for the job he had done over the past year and believes he should continue as President. Cox nominated Bowman and Bowman seconded the nomination. Bowman explained the numerous associations and boards he attends on behalf of the Village and how he has represented the Village throughout 2010. Roll Call: Cox-yes, Bowman-yes, Bockbrader-no, Campbell-no, Fuerst-no. Motion failed. Campbell nominated Fuerst and Bockbrader seconded. Fuerst explained he is new to the community but feels he is open to new ideas and looks forward to the additional responsibility the position entails. Jon Stewart asked how Fuerst would continue to progress / promote the Village of Pemberville if he would become president. Fuerst stated he did not know that anything was truly accomplished during the past year but he would try to bring the community together. He believes everything is uncertain and that they are still trying to figure things out. He does not currently have a set plan of action but he would do his best to help work on this. Carol Bailey asked Fuerst how he plans to bring the community together and if he was involved in any area events or groups. Fuerst explained he is a member of the SAL and volunteers there as much as he can. He buys gas from Steve's Car Care and groceries from the IGA. He explained he spends the majority of his time here in Pemberville. Cox moved to table the issue until King arrives and Bowman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Cox-yes, Bowman-yes, Fuerst-no, Campbell-no, Bockbrader-no. Motion failed. The motion to appoint Fuerst President was still active therefore roll was called. Roll Call: Campbell-yes, Bockbrader-yes, Bowman-no, Cox-no, Fuerst-yes. Mike Marsh informed Council that it requires 4 votes to appoint a president therefore motion failed. It was decided at this time to wait for Councilman King before calling for another nomination.

January 2011 calendar with committee meeting times was distributed. Committees were asked to verify meeting times and to let Stephanie know if they would like any changes to the calendar.

Campbell:

Campbell informed council that he had received welcome signs donated by the 4-H group.

Fuerst:

Fuerst asked if the finance committee meetings would be at a time he could attend. Mayor Opelt explained it is scheduled to allow the ladies to be there and avoid additional hours for them.

Other:

Carol Bailey explained the events planned for the Winter Fest scheduled in Pemberville.

Council decided to wait for King who was still at least 40 minutes away.

Mayor Opelt was asked to read the 2011 committee appointments. Discussion followed regarding the same.

Bockbrader expressed disappointment with his appointments and would have preferred to remain on the Safety Committee. Mayor Opelt explained that all safety issues had been brought before council but he would not have meetings to listen to complaints about the

department. He asked that council members take personnel issues to the personnel committee. Eileen Schuerman asked Larry Bockbrader if he had police experience. Bockbrader explained he had worked part-time for the police and sheriff departments and offered to present his credentials. Ms. Schuerman said that was not necessary at this time. She then inquired about the biweekly police reports. Mayor Opelt explained these were not available yet because Chief Darling has been working on the end of the year report.

Gustava Oberhouse explained that she was happy to see so many taking an interest in the village. She continued by explaining that decisions were not always easy when she was Mayor. She encouraged council to do their homework and not to make a decision before coming to council.

Keith Madaras asked that council consider new ways to communicate with village residents. He encouraged the updating of the Village website (www.pemberville.org), periodic newsletters, or email to keep residents informed of the village happenings.

Keith Cherry asked Council to investigate the policies of the police department. He also encouraged the development of a positive relationship between the police department and the teens and residents of Pemberville.

King entered at 8:12pm.

King was briefed on the council president discussion that took place prior in the meeting. Residents reiterated earlier comments and presented their input on who they would like to see as Council President. Jon Stewart asked if Fuerst could answer the question posed earlier. Fuerst explained he did not know what had been done with the recommendations on the 2000 economic plan that the Village had paid \$10,000 for. He continued that the economic development committee had not implemented this and it had not been used. Mayor Opelt and Bowman explained parts of the plan had been used on various projects but a majority of the projects suggested were not able to be financially supported. Mr. Stewart asked Fuerst what he would have done differently if he had been in the situation. He stated he was not here at that time and is not aware of the situation surrounding the decisions that were made. Fuerst was questioned why he wanted to be council president. He explained he believes he can help benefit the town. He continued by stating there are things going on in the town that the residents are not aware of such as eroding water lines. He explained the residents are subsidizing the utilities (water and sewer) every year through their taxes to a tune of \$50,000. He stated the Board of Public Affairs has not established a plan to address the larger issues. Board of Public Affairs Clerk, Marcy Abke, informed Fuerst that he misunderstood and the Board is fully aware of the needs of the village but due to financial constraints not everything can be completed at same time. The Board in 2010 spent over \$30,000 to revamp a well in the well fields as well as working on the new wastewater treatment plant and pump station due to be completed in spring of 2011. She encouraged Fuerst to attend the BPA meetings to more fully understand the issues. Bowman explained he attends half of the BPA meetings and is aware of the issues facing the BPA. Carol Bailey asked that the council members explain why they are choosing to support the candidates for council president. She asked if when those residents who are in attendance tonight have made it clear who they would like to see fill the position and those on council are to be representing the residents, does that play a part in the decisions council is making. Campbell stated the residents' opinions are very important to council. King asked why can't everyone

be positive, why does there have to be so much negativity. Again Ms. Bailey asked council to give their reasoning for supporting the person they are supporting. Mayor Opelt asked for a nomination for Council President. Cox moved and Campbell seconded the nomination of Gordon Bowman as Council President. Roll Call: Cox-yes, Campbell-yes, Bowman-yes, Bockbrader-no, Fuerst-no, King-yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Opelt adjourned the meeting at 8:42pm.