

April 11 2011 Council

**Council Meeting
11 April 2011**

Mayor Blair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Gerald Rougé – Yes, Linda Swaney – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Jeff Coleman – Yes, Dianne Lillibridge – Yes, Charles Hauser – Yes.

Visitors: Joe Kozial, Chip Hess, Marcianne Kimpton, Cady Hutchinson, Jack Garner, Jennell Dahlhausen, Tom Curtin

Recognition of Visitors:

Mr. Tom Curtin made a presentation about the status of Geauga Parks. Mr. Curtin presented a brief history of land use and development in Geauga County between 1975 and 1996. Mr. Curtin recounted how this led to the passage of the Park levy for land acquisition and park development. Geauga Park District is seeking ways to reduce its dependence upon levies by raising private sector funds and endowments. Mr. Curtin talked about the Observatory Park and the recent Orchard Hills Project that is starting up. The Geauga Park levy is coming up in 2012 and will be a renewal. Geauga Park is actively pursuing schools to use the parks. Council stated its favorable impression of the work done by the Park district.

Engineers Report:

Mr. Hess reported that Hess and Associates is working on the bid documents for the NOPEC sewer blower grants. Mr. Hess reported that he is working on an estimate for Rapids Road as the project for the Village Issue II submission. This estimate will be available to the Village on 25 April at the meeting. Mr. Coleman asked if the project would include sidewalks and enclosing the ditches. Mr. Hess explained that the estimate he was working on included everything and the Village would have an opportunity to adjust the scope of the project based upon available funds.

Zoning Report:

Ms. Hutchinson reported that she had approved two zoning permits. Ms. Hutchinson also reported that she had visited and left a note for the resident on Spring Street whose porch roof is collapsing. Council discussed its options.

Fire Report:

Chief Sestak was not available to report.

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Ordinances and Resolutions:

The Mayor asked Council if there was any discussion on the proposed legislation dealing with fees for deck zoning permits, changes in the notification process for noxious weeds and high grass, or the accounting of interest. Council discussed and decided that no changes were necessary.

Ms. Swaney introduced Ordinance 2220-11, amending ordinance no. 1113.05(a) increase the zoning permit fees in the Village of Burton, and placed it on first reading.

Ms. Swaney introduced Ordinance 2221-11, amending Chapter 565 of the Codified Ordinances in order to revise notification procedures, and placed it on first reading.

Ms. Swaney introduced Resolution 2011-06, amending Chapter 135 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Burton to direct the allocation of interest earned in exception to ORC 135, and placed it on first reading.

Fiscal Officer's Report:

Mr. Paquette asked for a motion to pay approved bills. Mr. Coleman moved to approve payment and Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed.

Mr. Paquette asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of 28 March 2011. Mrs. Lillibridge moved to adopt the minutes of 28 March 2011 as written. Mr. Hauser seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion passed.

Committees

BPA, Architectural Review and Planning Commission; Mr. Rougé
Mr. Rougé had nothing to report.

BZA, Board of Review. Mr. Ronyak
Mr. Ronyak had nothing to report.

Finances, BCPA: Mrs. Lillibridge

Mrs. Lillibridge reported that she had attended the Burton township meeting and learned that they are working on their roads to repair winter damage. The township is also working with Middlefield on repairs to Chipmunk and Georgia roads. Requests for housing permits are up in the township due mostly to Amish.

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Newbury Township apparently received an Issue II grant to repair Burton Heights Blvd.

Geauga Door donated a garage door to Burton Township.

Burton Township is working on its requirement to bury indigent residents.

Berkshire Community Planning Committee meets next month.

Trees and Parks, Historic District: Ms. Swaney

Ms. Swaney noted that the Tree Commission would like to introduce an ordinance to create an attendance requirement for commission members and to allow for a non Village resident to be on the board. This ordinance will be presented at the next meeting.

Ms. Swaney reported that the Burton Historic District Association would like to meet with Architectural Review Board on the subject of abandoned or derelict property as identified in a previous Council meeting.

Fire Department and Cemetery: Mr. Coleman

Mr. Coleman had nothing to report

Streets and Health District: Mr. Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that the Health District Committee met March 24 for the annual budget meeting but did not have a quorum. So on April 13 at 6:45 PM the Committee will meet again to pass the budget.

Mr. Hauser reported that the Street department has provided a list of its upcoming projects to Council.

Mr. Coleman asked if the sidewalk project could be dialed back to cover just those sections that were definitely raised or failing. If the Village reduces the amount of sidewalk replaced it can save money.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Blair reported to Council that Roberta Dobay has volunteered to be a member of the Audit Review Board. The Mayor will make her appointment official on Tuesday. Ms. Dahlhausen requested that Council make a motion to accept the Mayor's appointment. Ms. Swaney moved to appoint Roberta Dobay to the Audit review Board. Mr. Hauser seconded the motion. By voice vote motion was approved.

Mayor Blair reported that he had received a thank you letter from the Geauga Credit Union concerning the assistance they received from Burton Police Officer Mike Lewis.

Chief Smigelski is working on the possibility of a Police Auxiliary in the Village.

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The Mayor mentioned to Council that April is National Fair Housing Month.

Old Business:

Mrs. Kimpton, speaking on behalf of the Cemetery Board, noted that the Board is working with legal counsel on the matter of a tree that struck the new fence in the cemetery. The Cemetery has also looked at the cost of a chip seal project for the Cemetery driveway.

New Business:

Ms. Swaney reported that Mrs. Holt on South Cheshire sent her a letter seeking clarification on the matter of being able to raise chickens in the Village on her property. Ms. Hutchinson has spoken with Mrs. Holt previously and informed her that the area she lives in does not support raising any kind of agricultural animal by zoning code. Mrs. Holt was offered the option of going before the Planning Commission to request a variance. Council discussed.

Mr. Coleman addressed the probable loss of funds received by the Village from the state in future budgets. Mr. Coleman suggested that Council consider having employees pay for part of their health insurance. Mr. Paquette noted that recent legislation might have a provision requiring employees contribute up to 15%. Mr. Coleman asked that Council look into it further.

Mr. Coleman also wanted to start negotiations with the Geauga County Agricultural Society concerning the admissions tax. Council discussed the process by which the current tax is administered. Mr. Coleman asked if any one else was interested in meeting with the Fair Board. Mr. Ronyak, Mr. Hauser and the Mayor stated that they were. A meeting will be planned in the future.

Mr. Hauser reminded Council that brush pickup starts April 18 and all brush must be out by then. Council discussed some perceived abuses in the brush pickup process.

Mr. Ronyak moved to adjourn and Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer