

28 March 2011 Council

**Council Meeting
28 March 2011**

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

Roll Call: Gerald Rougé – Yes, Linda Swaney – Yes, Craig Ronyak – No, Jeff Coleman – No, Dianne Lillibridge – Yes, Charles Hauser – Yes.

Visitors: Jennell Dahlhausen, Joe Kozial, Marcianne Kimpton, Jack Garner, Rick Smigelski, Josh Echt, Todd Hicks, Cady Hutchinson, Ed Hale.

Police Report: Chief Smigelski

Chief Smigelski reported for the month of February 2011. Police responded to 382 activity calls, made 2 arrests, and 36 traffic stops. Officers worked 677 hours and put 3462 miles on the police cars. Chief Smigelski estimated that 4500 to 5000 visitors came through the Village for pancakes during the month. The Department put on extra officers and reviewed emergency procedures in preparation for the crowd.

Chief Smigelski explained to Council why he requested permission to purchase three portable radios on the auction site GovDeals. The radios, had we been able to out bid the competition, would have been a considerably reduced price from retail.

Chief Smigelski reported that the backlog of old evidence has been substantially reduced. Seized contraband destroyed, paper shredded and weapons will be taken to be melted down.

Solicitor:

Mr. Hicks had nothing to report.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

Fiscal Officer:

Mr. Paquette reported that Mr. Tom Curtin will be coming before Village Council on 11 April to discuss Geauga Park's plans.

Mr. Ken McNish will be at the meeting on 11 April 2011 to ask permission to offer for profit Carriage Rides around park during Village events.

The audit is complete and there were no findings. Recommendations include:

Change the distribution of gasoline taxes between highway and street operating

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Recommend that Village attempt to use more purchase orders vice the then and now certification

Advances must be repaid. Transfers are permanent. We advance money to the various capital funds with the idea that we can then move the money later if we need to spend it else where. Not so with a transfer. This will require better planning.

Interest is right now split between all accounts with a few exceptions. By statute we should be put all interest received in the general fund (although street and highway and trusts will continue to get interest). Council can override by ordinance and direct where interest should go. Mr. Paquette will draft a suggested ordinance for Council and BPA to review.

Mr. Paquette asked for a motion to pay approved bills. Mrs. Lillibridge so moved. Mr. Hauser seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion passed.

Mr. Paquette asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of 14 March 2011 as presented. Mrs. Lillibridge moved to adopt the 14 March minutes as written. Mr. Rougé seconded the motion. By voice vote motion passed.

MAYORS Report;

Mayor Blair noted that Pancake and Maple Syrup season is almost over.

Old Business:

Mr. Paquette presented a proposal to Council from the Burton Public Library whereby the Library would pay half the cost of the proposed air conditioning extension into Council chambers and requested that Council pay the remaining half. Mrs. Lillibridge moved authorize the Fiscal Officer to pay half the cost of the air conditioning extension cost for the Village Office. Ms. Swaney seconded the motion. By voice vote motion passed.

New Business:

Issue II funds pre-application for 2012 needs to be filled out by 17 June. Mayor Blair suggested a meeting with BPA, Mr. Hess and interested Council members to discuss a plan of action. Mr. Paquette was directed to coordinate a meeting date.

Mr. Paquette reported to Council that the next Tax Budget Cycle, 2012, has been started. Mr. Paquette will be using the five year projections to find a balanced budget proposal for Council to review. Mr. Paquette

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noted that the loss of local government funding and possible loss of the estate tax may have distinct consequences in the next few years. For instance, increases in the cost of the Fire contract, insufficient money derived from the levy, and the loss of some local government funding could cost the Village \$40,000, money no longer available for street capital projects.

Mr. Rougé brought up the subject building upkeep. As a member of the Historic District Architectural Review Board, Mr. Rougé reminded Council that the goal of the Board was to identify and preserve historic and culturally important buildings and structures in the Village. The subject has come up concerning maintaining certain properties that are unoccupied. Mr. Rougé discussed with Council methods of abatement and remediation and proposed to use a board consisting of the Mayor, Fire Chief and Zoning Inspector, consistent with Village Ordinance Section 1343, to notify and enforce our regulations concerning upkeep. Mr. Rougé stated that he was not proposing one specific plan at this time, but wanted everyone to keep this in mind. Mr. Hicks will look into the ordinance and the Village capabilities.

Ms. Swaney asked Mr. Rougé if the status of the old High School building next to the Fire Department was discussed. Mr. Rougé stated that the Fire Department has not come before the board at this time but they are aware of the need to get the Historic District Review Boards written permission to demolish the building.

Ms. Hutchinson reported as zoning inspector that she was looking at revising the noxious weeds ordinance to streamline the process of notification. Currently two letters of notification are needed. Ms. Hutchinson proposed allowing her to send a letter and/or notify the offender.

In addition, Ms. Hutchinson noted that there is not a separate permit for decks meaning that someone putting on a deck is charged \$125 while someone building an addition would be charged \$50. Mr. Hicks and Mr. Paquette will investigate and propose changes.

Mr. Coleman arrived at 7:25 PM.

Mr. Coleman asked if Council was aware that the Fairground was tying into the sewer on Goodwin. Mr. Coleman relayed a concern from a resident asking if the Fairgrounds had paid a tap in fee and the assessment for the Goodwin sewer line like the rest of the residents along the road. Mr. Paquette noted that the Fairgrounds already had paid a tap in fee and was just changing the location of their tap in. The

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Goodwin assessment was paid for by the previous owner of the property, Ms. N. Ashelman, who sold the property to the Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds is not building on the property.

Mr. Coleman moved to adjourn. Mr. Hauser seconded the motion.
Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

Mayor

Fiscal Officer