LEESBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL 8/19/2021 Mayor Shawn Priest

Mayor Shawn C. Priest called the regular August session of the Leesburg Village Council to order on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. in the Leesburg Municipal Building. No invocation was given and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.

ROLL CALL: Present: Council Members Mrs. Rita Smith-Daulton ⊠

Mr. John Michael ⊠

Ms. Blythe Pelham ⊠

Mr. Chris Runyon

Mr. Richard Tolle ⊠

Mr. Joel Morris ⊠

Also Present: Administrator Kenny Worley ⊠

Police Chief Shane Nolley ⊠

Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans ⊠

Solicitor Fred Beery ⊠

Also attending: Mrs. Dianna Fordyce and Mr. Richard Smith

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. John Michael moved, and Blythe Pelham seconded to approve the minutes for the July 15, 2021, regular Council meeting with corrections. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- b. Council reviewed the bills paid in July 2021. Joel Morris moved, and John Michael seconded the bills be approved. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- c. Richard Tolle moved, and Joel Morris seconded to approve the July Utility Adjustment Journal. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- d. Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans presented Council with an adjustment request from Suzette and John Everhart asking for an extraordinary amount of water used outside while they were on vacation. After discussion and the information provided by Utility Clerk Becky Hurst, Council agreed to give a one-time adjustment from 38,000 gallons they were billed, down to their normal usage of 4,000 gallons. Rita Smith-Daulton moved and Blythe Pelham seconded to approve a 34,000-gallon adjustment for the Everhart's. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

II. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mrs. Dianna Fordyce commended the Village for how nice the downtown area looks. Ms. Fordyce informed Council she has recently purchased the Soapery Building and the back lot attached to her lot belongs to the Village and Administrator Worley agreed to clean the Village portion of the lot. Mrs. Fordyce asked Council to consider implementing zoning in the Village down town area. Mayor Priest asked the Housing Committee to meet regarding zoning. After discussion, the Housing Committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Richard Smith – just observing

III. LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-08

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE REGULATION OF MOBILE HOMES, MANUFACTURED HOMES, AND TRAILERS IN THE VILLAGE OF LEESBURG.

*1st Reading 8/19/2021

ORDINANCE NO. 21-09

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN UNOPENED RIGHT OF WAY

Whereas, Revised Code §723.05 provides, in part: *** When, in the opinion of the legislative authority, there is good cause for vacating a street ***, or any part thereof, and that such vacation *** will not be detrimental to the general interest, it may, by ordinance and without petition therefor, vacate *** such *** alley or any part thereof.

*John Michael moved, and Blythe Pelham seconded to approve Ordinance No. 21-09. Roll call vote 4-1 with Joel Morris abstaining. Motion carried.

(According to Solicitor Beery we do not need to suspend the three-reading rule because we had a public hearing on this)

RESOLUTION NO. 21-08

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

*Joel Morris moved and Richard Tolle seconded to approve Resolution No. 21-08. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-09

A RESOLUTION TO PLACE RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF GRINDER PUMPS UPON THE CUSTOMER/OWNER

*John Michael moved, and Blythe Pelham seconded to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call vote 4-1.

*John Michael moved, and Blythe Pelham seconded to approve Resolution No. 21-09. Roll call vote 4-1 with Joel Morris abstaining.

(According to Solicitor Beery we don't need to pass this as an emergency, we suspend the three-reading rule and post in the paper to make the legislation active as soon as it posts.)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Meetings

V. REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS:

Report of Police Chief Shane Nolley:

Chief Shane Nolley reported for the month of July 2021, there were 271 calls for service. Hours worked were as followed: Chief Nolley-224 regular, 30 overtime; Officer Dawson-240 regular, 41.75 overtime; Officer Thompson – 32 regular, 0 overtime; Officer Bunner - 232 regular, 28 overtime. There were 8 Traffic Crash Reports, and 11 Offense Reports. Arrest Information: Arrests - 1, Traffic Citations - 2, and Warning Citations - 12. Police vehicle information: Unit 1 - 2017 Police Interceptor – 755 miles driven, Unit 2 - 2020 Police Interceptor – 249 miles driven, Unit 3 - 2015 Police Interceptor – 847 miles driven. Repairs: \$289.35 and Training: \$0.

Additional Information from Chief Nolley:

> The Police Department has 109 active case reports.

- The departments total reports received for the month of July 2021 were 11 reports, a decrease of 5 reports from July 2020.
- ➤ Patrolman Bunner attended Ohio Police Officer Training Academy for a refresher course and is up to date on training. All officers attended the annual firearm certification. Patrolman Dawson and Bunner attended active shooter scenario training at Fairfield Local Schools. The Department has also been awarded a Provisional Certification from Ohio Collaborative for Group 2 Community Engagement awaiting on final certification.

Report of Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans:

- Passed around the monthly reports and credit card statement for Council to sign.
- Requested Council pass Article 43 Disaster Recovery Policy.
 *Rita Smith-Daulton moved and John Michael seconded to approve Article
 43. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- Requested Council pass Article 44 Acceptable Use Policy.
 *Joel Morris moved and Blythe Pelham seconded to approve Article 44. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- ➤ Informed Council that the basement is being cleaned out and old records will be destroyed per approval from the Secretary of State.

Report of Utility/Streets Department from Administrator Worley:

- Employees completed 173 hours in ground maintenance including mowing, spraying and weed eating.
- ➤ Completed 164 hours in sewer maintenance including lift stations, WWTP, sewer taps and digester.
- ➤ Completed 24 hours in water maintenance including repairing chlorine line and pump, installing water meters.
- Misc. items: worked on three water leaks on East Main Street totaling 11 regular hours and 60 overtime hours. Also worked on nuisance properties: Whitt, Lewis, Anderson, Lightner, Yoder, Smith and Hamilton.

Report of Regional Income Tax Association (RITA):

Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans reported that \$90,922.00 was collected for the month of July 2021.

Report of Mayor Shawn C. Priest:

- Informed Council she has received a quote for the "Welcome to Leesburg" signs and the price was \$7,318 per sign. The Mayor asked to table this item until Councilman Joel Morris has the chance to check with Great Oaks to see if they have any students that can make a similar sign.
- Attended a FEMA meeting and they discussed all the services their organization provides along with the funding that is used. Currently, the funding comes from cities, villages and townships and they are charged .50 per capita. Currently, they receive \$657 per year from the Village and they would like to increase the per capita by .25 in 2022 (\$.75) and .25 in 2023 (\$1.00). In addition, the money will be paid out in two yearly payments.
- ➤ Governor Dewine announced that he allocated \$250 million for infrastructure projects for rural areas in the state of Ohio. Rural areas could potentially receive \$5 million per project and \$250,000 for engineering cost.

- It will be up to the County Engineer to rank each project in order of importance in their counties. Mayor Priest stated she has already talked to Chris Fauber regarding our situation and necessity.
- Through the American Recovery Act the Village was suppose to originally receive \$242,000 but the governor decided to divide the funding with the townships as well so now our total expected funds with be \$134,000. Mayor Priest stated that herself, Tracy Evans and Kenny Worley attended a township meeting and requested they share some of their funding with the Village because the money can only be used for infrastructure projects and that does not apply to them. According to Trustee Kenny Stevens, the Township plans on keeping all their money in an account since they have until 2024 to expend it out and hope the government will change their stipulations in the next couple of years.
- ➤ Visited Justin Bailey and his new shop and he is hoping to buy a parcel and build a bigger building.
- ➤ We have a family that is interested in putting a Dairy Bar in Leesburg.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- ➤ Regarding the tornado siren Mayor Priest reported the tornado siren is on the back burner for now because of the problems with the water lines. However, the cost to construct a new sire will be approximately \$10,000.
- ➤ Regarding abandoned properties Solicitor Beery stated he is presenting them to the Judge one at a time. The Yerian property will be the next property presented.
- ➤ Regarding the grocery store Mayor Priest called the attorney of Chase Bank that has the property and he told the Mayor he will have an answer for her in fourteen days regarding the property.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- Councilwoman Rita Smith-Daulton stated she recently spoke with resident Terri Hafer and she is upset with the water and moisture under her house from the water that drains down to her property from the last addition built on to Kennedy Avenue. Mrs. Hafer said she put a lot of money in repairs and feels if the Village installs a catch basin this would alleviate the problem. Solicitor Beery stated this problem should be between Mrs. Hafer and her neighbors and the "Fair Use Doctrine" comes to play. Councilman John Michael said this has come up before with other properties. Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans read a letter to Council from Environmental Engineering regarding the run-off water from a property that was causing damage to the other property and in their opinion, it was not the Villages responsibility to rectify this situation. Solicitor Beery agreed with their opinion.
- Councilman Joel Morris said he feels we need to discuss Councilman Chris Runyon's seat since he has not been attending meetings. Solicitor Beery said if Councilman Runyon has missed more than three consecutive meetings he can be removed. Solicitor Beery stated that if Councilman Runyon was removed he would be paid through the August 2021 meeting.

Also, if Council does not appoint someone to fill the vacancy within thirty days, then the Mayor has the right to fill the position.

*Joel Morris moved and Richard Tolle seconded to remove Chris Runyon from office. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

➤ Richard Tolle moved, and Joel Morris seconded to adjourn at 8:15 P.M. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.