

VILLAGE OF MINSTER, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 2, 2020

Council Meeting: Council convened remotely at the Four Seasons Park Shelter House #3 at 6:30 p.m. with five council members present: Tom Herkenhoff, Curt Albers, Nicole Clune, Rick Schwartz, and Paul Enneking. Also present were Dennis Kitzmiller (Mayor), Don Harrod (Administrator), Jim Hearn (Village Solicitor), and John Stechschulte (Fiscal Officer).

Attendance: Craig Sherman, Tom Millhouse (Daily Standard), and David Friend (Police Chief).

Mayor Dennis Kitzmiller called the Council Meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Herkenhoff and Schwartz motioned to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of May 19, 2020. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Schwartz and Albers motioned to excuse Craig Oldiges from the meeting. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Follow-up on Dannon Odor: Craig Sherman reported that Don gave him a history of incidences and there was another odor incident on May 24th. Don explained the response back from Dannon for the incident was an air conditioner unit went down and was repaired June 1st. Craig asked about total suspended solids and Don said they were higher yet below the limit of 128 mg/liter. Don was asked to draft a letter and send some of our concerns to the parent company. Craig will continue to work with the EPA for advice. Council thanked Craig for his time.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

Protecting Water System from Contaminates: The Ohio EPA is again forcing an unfunded mandate to establish controls to ensure municipal water systems are not contaminated from outside connections. Don explained the village must complete inspections to be sure of no cross connection between private irrigation systems or cisterns and the village water system. He stated that the revisions to the Village's current ordinance deal with new EPA rules and regulations on notifying customers of violations and the possibility of water shut-offs. The Village is to complete inspection of the entire town over a five-year period. Council asked if we knew where all the cisterns, irrigation systems, or other situations are located. Don stated we know many of them but will need verify each resident. Clune and Herkenhoff motioned for the 3rd reading to pass and adopt **Ordinance 20-05-02** establishing an effective means for protecting the public water system from contaminants. Motion passed on five aye votes.

New Water Tower: A leak was detected in the Ohio Street north water tower while painting it last summer. The north water tower is very old and needs to be replaced. Council believes now is the time to begin engineering for a new water tower. CDM Smith submitted a proposal in the amount of \$292,500.00 for engineering services to replace the North Elevated Water Storage Tank. Fred Smith explained the proposal is in two phases. Phase 1 is for model development and EST (elevated storage tower) design while Phase 2 is for bidding and to award a contract. He explained there are only 2 or 3 tank builders in the United States and could be four or five years before the tank will put in service. Schwartz and Albers motioned for the 3rd reading to pass and adopt **Resolution 20-05-02** entering into a contract with CDM Smith for engineering services for

replacement of the North Water Tower. Motion passed on five aye votes. Don will also inform John Courtney to include this in his cost-of-service study.

Ripploh & Weigandt Annexation: Todd Realty and Michael and Susan Ripploh petitioned the Auglaize County Commissioners to annex 18.441 acres at the northeast corner of Seventh Street and Main Street into Village of Minster corporation limits. The required 60 days waiting period is complete. Enneking and Herkenhoff motioned for the 1st reading of **Ordinance 20-06-01** annexing 18.441 acres in Jackson Township into the Village of Minster. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Stonegate Sub-division: Received a letter from Todd Weigandt of Todd Realty stating he would like to dedicate Phase I of the Stonegate Sub-division so that the Village would be responsible for ownership and maintenance of the street and utilities. Clune mentioned that it seems as the streets are not as good. Don said these streets have a lot of new construction which brings heavy truck traffic. He also stated the sub-division is up to code and Scott Langenkamp was the inspector for the village during construction of the infrastructure. Don stated that the street and utilities are acceptable and recommends Phase I be accepted. Albers and Enneking motioned for the 1st reading of **Ordinance 20-06-02** dedicating Phase I of Stonegate Sub-division into the village for public use. Motion passed on five aye votes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Phase II Solar Project: Jim Hearn updated Council on the status of phase II of the solar project. He stated Council terminated the contract with Empower in April and that at a council meeting Evan Bates of Empower said terms have been met, wished to continue with the project, and threatened a lawsuit. Jim sent a letter asking for specific documentation of permits, financing, and progress report to which we have not received any information. The lawyer representing Empower emailed Jim and spoke regarding the termination of the contract. Council wishes are to proceed with the solar project and wanted a new schedule for completion of the solar field.

Don stated the Empower contract is for 5.9 cents per kWh fixed for 25 years. There new proposal has been received with Etri Foundry / Vaughn Electric proposed 6.4 cents per kWh fixed for 30 years. Dickman proposed 7.66 / kWh and Cherry Street proposed 8.25 / kWh. Rick asked how did the call with Empower go? Jim said they still don't have permits and still no financing. Council will wait until the next Council meeting and as ask Empower for a new proposal.

NEW BUSINESS:

Purchases over \$3,000 Dollars: Council reviewed a list of invoices which were over \$3,000. Council has authorized the Administrator to purchase items up to \$25,000, however, per the State Auditor; the purchases over \$3,000 and under \$25,000 require Council approval. Schwartz and Clune motioned to approve the invoices over \$3,000. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Part-Time Summer Pool & Parks: Annually the Village hires part-time summer help for the Pool, Parks and Public Works Departments. This year 33 individuals will be hired for the pool as lifeguards and Assistant Managers. In addition, four high school / college age individuals will be hired for the Parks, and two for pool maintenance. Herkenhoff and Enneking motioned to accept the mayor recommendation to hire the seasonal employees. Motion passed on four aye votes and

one abstention by Clune. In addition, it was agreed to call back the part time adults who have not been working due to the Covid19 Virus guidelines.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Helms and Sons have completed the installation of all of the concrete work on Garfield Street. They are expected to be placing asphalt towards the end of this week. Once paving is completed the Village will have the area reseeded.
- Shinn Brothers continue to work on the pickleball and basketball courts at the Four Seasons Park. Their subcontractor, Woehrmyer Concrete has made two pours of the concrete decking for the basketball and pickleball courts. An additional two pours need to occur yet.
- The Minster Swimming Pool opened on Monday, June 1st. Residents can still purchase passes at the pool during normal operating hours. All of the amenities except for the baby pool are in use. The baby pool is being repainted and should be open by the end of the week. Due to the restrictions established by the State of Ohio there are a number of changes at the pool including limiting the number of individuals that can be in the water at one time to 62 people.
- Chilltex has begun work on the building pad for their new building at the Industrial Park. Dan Paulus is the contractor who is doing the work and he has nearly completed the pad. We expect the building to go up shortly.
- The Minster Youth Softball and Baseball Organization's leagues along with men's and women's softball leagues will begin games this week. We have meet with representatives of each league and explained our expectations for them to adhere to the State of Ohio's rules regarding the use of baseball and softball facilities. We have also distributed a liability waiver to the organizations for each of their members.
- Crews are working on erecting the new playground equipment that will go out at the Four Seasons Park. Crews are assembling most of the equipment at the public works building and will haul the equipment over to its new location at the park.

Receipts: Council reviewed the monthly cash receipt ledger of \$1,386,696.24. Albers and Clune motioned to approve the report. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Invoices: Herkenhoff and Schwartz motioned to approve the invoices totaling \$1,017,404.29. Motion passed on five aye votes.

COMMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:

Police Chief Friend: Chief Friend reported the Minster High School graduation parade was without incident. He also said the solar speed limit sign has been moved from First Street to Seventh Street. Lastly, he said the Police Station lobby was closed due to the Covid19 Virus, but is now open.

Clune and Enneking motioned to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion passed on five aye votes.

Dennis Kitzmiller, Mayor

John Stechschulte, Clerk

Recorded & typed by John Stechschulte