

The Council of the Village of Millersburg met in regular session on January 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Huebner called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk-Treasurer Karen Shaffer gave roll call and the following members were in attendance: Brent Hofstetter, Tom Vaughn, Robert Shoemaker and Kelly Hoffee. Solicitor Robert Hines was also in attendance. Motion made by Hoffee to excuse Councilwoman Polen. Seconded by Shoemaker. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hoffee, Shoemaker, Vaughn and Hofstetter voting aye.

Mayor Huebner read a letter of resignation from Councilwoman Ruby Baird effective January 13, 2020. Baird retired and is spending the winter months in Florida. Baird thanked the community for their support throughout her time on Council. Motion made by Hofstetter to accept the resignation of Ruby Baird. Seconded by Vaughn. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hofstetter, Vaughn, Shoemaker and Hoffee voting aye.

VISITORS: HDM Director Judy Lamp informed Council that Heritage Ohio completed their evaluation today. HDM is state accredited once again. They were pleased with the growth and programs that were added by HDM this last year. Mayor Huebner noted that Judy was also named "Main Street Manager of the Year" in 2019.

Jen Miller asked Council to consider allowing commercial grade lighting to be installed across the street between Miller's Creamery and the Jewelry Store. This is for the "First Friday" events running from June to October between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The lighting would remain up and would be high enough to not interfere with vehicles/trucks turning onto S. Washington. Miller noted they could be taken down after the last event if Council preferred. Hoffee asked what the Village could do to help with "First Fridays". Miller stated it would be helpful to have someone from the police auxiliary on hand to assist with blocking off street parking and other issues that may be needed. Miller also said they are willing to pay an individual for those services. Council told Miller to come back for final approval once specific lighting is chosen.

Judy Lamp asked if HDM would be permitted to keep the white string lights up year round on main street. They will maintain them along with associated costs. Jen Miller also commented that electric will need to be installed along the two most western blocks for lighting. Admin Troyer said to do that, it would require boring; setting lights (Victorian) and outlets. Mayor Huebner suggested getting estimates, however cautioned that it will not happen this year as the budget has been set.

MINUTES: Motion made by Shoemaker to suspend the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Hoffee. Upon roll call, motion carried with Shoemaker, Hoffee, Vaughn and Hofstetter voting aye. Motion made by Hoffee to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Hofstetter. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hoffee, Hofstetter, Vaughn and Shoemaker voting aye.

BILLS: Motion made by Hofstetter to pay bill resolution 2020-01 bills \$198,116.20 payroll \$101,973.91 total \$300,090.11. Seconded by Hoffee. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hofstetter, Hoffee, Shoemaker and Vaughn voting aye.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Chief Shaner: Informed Council Andrea Mast successfully completed her probationary period as of December 26, 2019. Motion made by Hoffee to remove Andrea Mast from probationary status. Seconded by Shoemaker. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hoffee, Shoemaker, Hofstetter and Vaughn voting aye.

Informed Council interviews were held for a full-time dispatcher and a full-time road officer. Shaner asked for approval to hire Connor Bailey as patrol and Joshua Neely as dispatcher. Both are certified. Bailey is from Doylestown and Neely is from Howard, both neighboring counties. Motion made by Hoffee to approve the hiring of Connor Bailey and Joshua Neely. Seconded by Vaughn. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hoffee, Vaughn, Hofstetter and Shoemaker voting aye.

Administrator Troyer: Informed Council at the January 8th meeting of the DRB a COA for signage at Miller Creamery (window signage) was approved. At the P&Z meeting a variance request for a proposed billboard at 1056 South Washington Street was denied. P&Z also approved the variance for the window signage at Miller Creamery.

Informed Council the beginning stage of the SRTS Program (East sidewalks) is underway with planning out project timelines with OMEGA. Legislation approving the pursuit of funding through ODOT for the specific project(s) is forthcoming.

Informed Council the contract with Spohn Ranch has been signed for the skate park and we have had discussions with them about next steps. The plan is that they are going to create 2-3 preliminary designs and present them at a public meeting in February where we will solicit

input from interested parties. Based on that input and response they will be able to work towards a final design.

Informed Council Septage Receiving for December was 78,500 gallons for \$4290.00.

Informed Council he is working on putting together a bid pack for the remaining tree removal as well as a separate pack for existing stump removal.

Informed Council he is working on putting project areas together for submittal to the engineer to prepare the plans and documents on the Sidewalk/Street Resurfacing program for 2020.

Informed Council AEP quoted \$100 per month for 11 additional street lights from the water plant to Bell Stores on the west side of the Village. In addition, 2 dead spots of lighting have been identified on N. Washington and S. Washington. Council authorized the Administrator to have lights installed where needed and authorized the 11 lights on the west side of town.

Clerk-Treasurer Shaffer: Presented the December 2019 Financial Reports consisting of the Bank Reconciliation; Appropriation Summary, Fund Summary, Revenue Summary, Payment Summary, and Payroll, as well as the 2019 Year End Financial Statement. There were no questions or comments.

Informed Council an Alzheimer's Leadership Roundtable is scheduled for February 6, from 8:30 am – 9:30 am at the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce. An invitation was received for elected officials. Shaffer said anyone interested in attending should let her know by January 27th to make reservations.

Informed Council she received a notice that Brian Collett (former employee) has filed and been awarded compensation in the amount of \$280.21 per week.

Mayor Huebner: Informed Council the Committee Appointments for 2020 were included with the packets. Changes were made due to the resignation of Ruby Baird and the addition of new Council member Tom Vaughn. Committee lists are also posted in Village Hall.

Informed Council they need to establish the time and dates for regular sessions of Council. Council agreed to keep the same times as previously established (second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 pm).

Informed Council of the need to elect a Council President for 2020. Shoemaker nominated Devone Polen. Vaughn nominated Brent Hofstetter. A paper ballot was cast resulting in a tie (2-2). Mayor Huebner asked for a coin toss for Council President. With Polen being absent, Hofstetter made the call of tails and won the toss.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Shoemaker noted a meeting has been scheduled for discussion on the flooding issues/MWSCD. The Holmes and Coshocton County Engineers, Brent Hofstetter, Bob Hines and himself will be meeting on January 24th at 1:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: Hofstetter noted the decision of P & Z to deny the variance request of a proposed billboard 1056 S. Washington St. was due to the 2000 sq. ft. regulation in proximity to residential areas and the proposal was for 1500 sq. ft. Other areas to the south could possibly come up in the future regarding billboards. Hofstetter suggested the ordinance be amended and increased to 2500 sq. ft. of residential areas. Any variance request would still need brought before P & Z. Council agreed and instructed Solicitor Hines to research the matter.

Clerk-Treasurer Shaffer read a prepared statement regarding misinformation that has been talked about and posted on social media as it related to the Village finances and the addition of a skate park. (Statement is part of the official record and attached as Exhibit A to the permanent record of minutes). Mayor Huebner thanked Shaffer for her comments and agreed that incorrect information is often posted on social media. Councilman Vaughn noted from his experience when he was Chief of Police, employees and staff are very frugal with funds.

Shane Cultice stated the Eagles would be willing to help with funds for additional lighting, receptacles and electric along W. Jackson St. from Washington St. and west.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Hofstetter to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Hoffee. Upon roll call, motion carried with Hofstetter, Hoffee, Vaughn and Shoemaker voting aye.

Approved Date _____

Karen Shaffer, Clerk-Treasurer

Jeff Huebner, Mayor