

Bethel Village Council February 28, 2011

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., with Mayor James T. Dick presiding.

Mr. Cherry delivered the invocation, followed by Mayor Dick leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Upon roll call, the following members were counted as present: Council Members Priscilla Johnson, Janice Ireton, Donna Gunn, Rus Whitley, Tim Cherry, Alan Ausman, Solicitor George Leicht, Fiscal Officer Bill Gilpin and Village Administrator Travis Dotson.

Also present were Tim Rohling, Brett Roller of the Clermont Sun, Ruth Gelter of the Independent Press, Gary Hutchinson, Mary Dannemiller of the Bethel Journal and Charlie Collins.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2011 meeting, as written, was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Ireton. 5 yeas – Mr. Ausman abstained.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2011 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Gunn. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yeas.

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2011 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yeas.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

REPORTS

Mayor James T. Dick

Bethel business luncheon is on March 16 at the Grant Memorial building.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

There was a power outage this morning with localized damage. Have been doing a lot of work on policies.

Fiscal Officer, Bill Gilpin

Software update-Payroll functions have been transferred to the UAN system.
2009-10 Audit-Have not been contacted yet by the state.
KeyBank checking account has been closed.
Payroll account at Chase Bank has been opened.

Solicitor George Leicht

Nil.

Police Chief Mark Planck

Bethel Arts and Musical Festival is shaping up for May 7 with a May 14 rain date.
January police activity report distributed.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

There are slight changes to the health care costs.
Next meeting will be March 9 at 5:00 pm.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

Meeting was held on February 23 at 5:30 pm.

Council will see under legislation a request for an address change to 120 West Tower Alley.

Resolution 905 is for safety procedure manual.

Would like a recommendation to run advertising for 2011 mowing contract.

Resolution 906 is for final resolution for ODOT traffic signal upgrade project.

The amount of the project exceeds the amount allowed by ODOT, the village will be required to make up the balance.

5k was discussed in committee-No policy in place so permission cannot be denied.

George Leicht-Who will pay for additional police cost?

Mr. Cherry-This will be an opportunity for the auxiliary officers to get their hours in.

George Leicht asked Mr. Cherry to put the committee recommendation to council.

Next meeting is March 21 at 5:30 pm.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Rus Whitley

Next meeting is March 14 at 5:30 pm.

K9 cage was sold, presented check for \$400.00 to police department to be deposited into a newly created fund, Bethel Police K9 Fund.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Alan Ausman

Met earlier this evening.

Discussed Resolution 907 dealing with internet usage by employees.

Job descriptions will be tweaked, discussed separating maintenance zoning code and maintenance enforcement.

Discussed looking at other sections of the handbook.

Next meeting will be March 28 at 5:30 pm.

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton

Still working on obtaining chairs and asked Mr. Cherry if his committee discussed.

Mr. Cherry-Yes, would like to see very sturdy chairs similar to chairs at community center.

Chairs will most likely not be in place by March 16.

Jennifer Dick will be contacted for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson

Next meeting will be March 10 at 5:00 pm., asked Mr. Dotson to bring surveys to meeting.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: Nil.

Janice Ireton: Nil.

Donna Gunn: Nil.

Rus Whitley: Asked everyone to continue supporting the local churches with donations.

Tim Cherry: Nil.

Alan Ausman: Nil.

PUBLIC INPUT

Gary Hutchinson asked Mr. Cherry what precipitated the address change as there is a similar situation on his street.

Mr. Cherry replied that the change was being made to help out with county emergency calls.

Mr. Dotson asked Gary Hutchinson for the necessary information and it will be corrected.

Charlie Collins from Bethel IGA asked about the contract with AEP for bulk power. There was much discussion on the possibility of rates being lowered after a study is performed mid-year or shortly thereafter.

Mayor Dick indicated that after 6 months or so rate options will be reviewed with the hope that rates may be lowered by approximately 12%.

There was additional discussion on the fact that rates are different for different types of customers and that the utility infrastructure also figures into the overall cost of rates.

Gary Hutchinson stated that he feels the savings should be escrowed in not given back to the consumers to help out when rates rise in a future contract.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 1650 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER (ORDINANCE 1635) ACCEPTING CHANGES MADE TO THE TRANSMISSION RIDERS, AS STATED, 2nd Reading

ORDINANCE 1651 CHANGING THE ADDRESS OF 120 ½ MAIN ST. TO 120 W. TOWER ALLEY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion to waive the three readings of ORD 1651 ADDRESS CHANGE was made by Mr. Whitley. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. By roll: Mr. Ausman “yea”, Mr. Cherry “yea”, Mr. Whitley “yea”, Ms. Gunn “yea”, Ms. Ireton “yea”, Ms. Johnson “yea”. Motion carried.

A motion to adopt ORD 1651 ADDRESS CHANGE was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. By roll: Mr. Ausman “yea”, Mr. Cherry “yea”, Mr. Whitley “yea”, Ms. Gunn “yea”, Ms. Ireton “yea”, Ms. Johnson “yea”. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 908A ESTABLISHING BETHEL POLICE K9 FUND

A motion to waive three readings of Resolution 908 was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yea.

Discussion; Ms. Ireton asked what the funds would be used for. Mr. Whitley replied K9 items for police cruisers, etc.

A motion to adopt Resolution 908A was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Mr. Cherry. All yea.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses totaling \$127,642.35 plus and additional check for Carnahan scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Ms. Gunn. All yea.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yea. 7:30 p.m.

James T. Dick, Mayor

Bill Gilpin, Fiscal Officer