

Bethel Village Council May 9, 2011

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, May 9, 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; Village Administrator Travis Dotson; Solicitor George Leicht and Fiscal Officer Bill Gilpin were absent.

A motion to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2011 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Mr. Whitley. All yea.

COMMUNICATIONS

Judi Adams addressed council. On behalf of the committee, thanks to village council for allowing BAMFest to take place again this year. There will be a wrap-up meeting in the near future. Judi Adams requested that a person on village council be a committee member for BAMFest and Down Home Christmas to act as a liaison between the event organizers and the special events committee.

REPORTS

Mayor James T. Dick

BAMFest was a very good event.
Mayor's Court report was read aloud.
Yard sale weekend is coming up on May 20-22.
Mayor's association meeting is being hosted here on May 14.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

All items are going through the committee process.
Kelly Miller circus will be here on May 15.

Fiscal Officer, Bill Gilpin

Absent

Solicitor George Leicht

Absent

Police Chief Mark Planck

Asked council to approve a 2007 cruiser from Loveland for \$5,000.00.
After a brief discussion it was noted by Mayor Dick that since the finance committee has already approved of the purchase, it is proper to proceed with purchasing the cruiser.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The new utilities software is being readied for installation.
The transfer of information will be done in-house because the old software company quoted a cost of \$9,000 to do the conversion.
Since Julie Ermi has retired and another employee is off on medical leave, Travis Dotson will help fill in with utility staffing.
The committee approved putting the Burke Park, Grant Memorial and Community Center levy back on the November ballot with the proper language used this time around.

There was discussion on the time line and necessary paperwork to put the levy on the ballot. Lineman will be traveling to Columbus next week to investigate a lineman training course. Need approval for \$3600 each for tuition and hotel expenses not to exceed \$100 each for 9 days.

A motion to pay \$3600 each for 2 employees to attend lineman training was made by Ms. Gunn. Second by Mr. Ausman. Ms. Gunn, Mr. Ausman, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Ireton and Mr. Whitley voted "yea". Mr. Cherry voted "nay". Motion carried

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday June 6, 2011 at 5:00 pm.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

The committee met earlier this evening, pavement resurfacing for 2011 was discussed. Mitch Hatfield and Travis Dotson have prepared a graded list for consideration.

Traffic signal upgrade-Bids came in higher and ODOT has requested an additional \$27,000 for the project. Request for justification of the increase in cost has been made.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Gary Hutchinson asked Mr. Cherry to relay to the county engineer the condition of Charity Street and the need for repairs. Mr. Cherry replied that he has already done so and was told that it is on a five year plan.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Rus Whitley

Met this evening, Cruiser 503 needs a new computer, appropriations are in place.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13 at 5:00 pm.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Alan Ausman

Finance committee has approved the hiring of a full-time utility clerk. Travis Dotson and Michelle Price have interviewed several candidates and are recommending Dana King for hire. Background check has been approved.

A motion to hire Dana King full-time at \$11.00 per hour was made by Mr. Ausman. Second by Ms. Gunn. Mr. Ausman, Ms. Gunn, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Cherry voted "yea". Ms. Ireton and Mr. Whitley voted "nay". Motion carried.

There is a need for another meeting prior to the next council meeting to be held on May 17, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton

A reminder to students that the deadline for scholarship applications is May 13
Committee members will have their packets by May 17.
Interviews of applicants will be held on May 20 at 6:00 pm.
Graduation is on May 27

Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson

Meeting was held on April 7. There was discussion on the reclassification of Tate Run subdivision. Travis Dotson will get with George Leicht.

Curbs, gutters, property maintenance and casual dining were all items of note received on the community surveys.

Also discussed was the need for zoning and maintenance code enforcement.

Next meeting will be May 12, 2011 at 5:30 pm.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: Thanks to everyone for BAMFest.

Janice Ireton: Nil.

Donna Gunn: Received many compliments about BAMFest. The defacing of the wall on St. Rt. 125 is a crime and is punishable.

Rus Whitley: Traveled to Loveland and inspected the 2007 cruiser and feels that it would be a great deal. Please support your local churches.

Has received requests for action on the electric rates. Wants to know when a reduction in electric rates will happen. Mayor Dick stated that information will be sent to an engineer to study. Ms. Gunn asked if the plan was still to have 6 months of the new rates on hand before beginning the review process. Travis Dotson indicated that the village is waiting 2 things; 2015 numbers from AEP that should be received soon and the report from the third party consultant on how rates compare with surrounding communities.

Mr. Whitley repeated his desire to give something back, even if it is a small percentage beginning in June.

Tim Cherry: Nil

Alan Ausman: Thanked Pastor Stewart for overseeing the painting of the wall.

PUBLIC INPUT

Lucy Shepherd asked Mr. Whitley to clarify his position on the electric rates, is the desire for a rate reduction or processing an actual rebate. Mr. Whitley replied that he was referring to a rate reduction. Lucy Shepherd asked how much reserve was needed. Mr. Whitley replied that is yet to be determined by the consultant and committees.

Gary Hutchinson stated that the current process is to determine rates and that currently the village is in violation of the rules and regulations of the utility funds. Gary Hutchinson stated that he feels that there is too much money accumulated and that the state will step in and take action.

Pastor Hembree asked if the special events paperwork will be available on the village website. Mayor Dick replied that the village website is being rebuilt and that such features will be added.

LEGISLATION

None.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses (checks 22430-22482 plus electronic payments and charges); in the amount of \$156,633.39 was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Mr. Whitley. All yea.

APRIL EXPENSES

A motion to approve the April, 2011 expenses, as presented was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yea.

A motion to adjourn at 7:16 pm was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Mr. Cherry. All yea.

James T. Dick, Mayor

William R. Gilpin, Fiscal Officer

NOT APPROVED