

Bethel Village Council

May 24, 2010

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, May 24, 2010, 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, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, Mary Daugherty; Solicitor George Leicht, Fiscal Officer Angel Burton and Village Administrator Travis Dotson.

Mayor Dick thanked Bethel Building and Loan for sponsoring this year's Council meeting videos.

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2010 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Johnson. All yea.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Judi Adams addressed Council on behalf of the BAMFest Committee:

“To: Bethel Village Council

Eight months ago I came before you to request permission to create a Bethel Art & Music Fest event. With your permission and support, and from that beginning, I set out to find people to serve on a committee for the common goal of community unity; to bring the businesses and citizens of the Bethel community into a working relationship to promote this unity, make our town a welcome place to live and work, create a family oriented atmosphere, and promote new business to move into our village. This was accomplished, and with an astounding amount of interest we achieved our “community unity” goal.

This caring, giving, working and generous committee consisted of local business owners and managers, Bethel Village employees, and concerned individuals. The amount of enthusiasm, ideas, and contribution of time and talent of this committee generated an interest in this event that was contagious! Monthly meetings were well attended with approximately 20 people at each meeting.

On Saturday, May 8th, we presented our First Bethel Art & Music Fest to the public. This event, even with the chilly, windy weather, proved to be successful and was well attended. We, as a community, created a unity that allowed us to work together, pool our resources, “push up our sleeves” and make good things happen! The amount of people who stepped forward to ask “what can I do to help?” was amazing!

Last week the committee met to determine how to make this event even better! We compiled feedback from different sources regarding the event and took it all into consideration. It was determined that we would like to continue to have the event on Mother's Day weekend, so next year it would be Saturday, May 7th. We want to bring the activities into the village more instead of being spread out, including the car show and the children's art area.

We would like to sincerely thank the Village Council members for your support for BAM Fest with special thanks to Mayor James Dick. We would also like to recognize the extra efforts of Police Chief Mark Plank and Public Works Supervisor, Mitch Hatfield, who both went above & beyond the call of duty to make BAM Fest successful.

The BAM Fest committee would like to request that this become an annual event in Bethel and that we have the continued support of the Bethel Village Council. We also ask that this event be put on next year's 2011 Village calendar NOW, so that we may start to plan activities. Without a predetermined date, no one can commit. I do not want to have to wait until after January 1 to book the event. I appreciate your allowing me this time to address council.

Sincerely,

Judi Adams, Chairman, Bethel Art & Music Fest Committee”

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor James T. Dick

Mayor Dick attended the Bethel-Tate High School Graduation last Friday, where he announced the 2010 Edmund Burke Scholarship winners and gave a brief history of the trust.

Founder's Days will be June 25th through 27th, with setup on June 24th.

Mayor Dick met with Zoning Administrator Ron Dunn last Saturday. One of the items they discussed was the zoning in Tate Run Subdivision. The zoning is currently Industrial, and Mayor Dick would like Council to ask the Planning Commission to make an opinion on rezoning the property to Residential. Only the parcels within Tate Run are zoned Industrial, though Mr. Dotson stated the properties may be zoned Transitional. Mr. Leicht will prepare a resolution for the next meeting, as well as a resolution requesting the review of Zoning Fees, adopted in Ordinance 1634.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

Public Works is cleaning up the old Settlers Cemetery and replacing flags in preparation for Memorial Day.

Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton

Nil.

Solicitor George Leicht

Nil.

Police Chief Mark Planck

Nil.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The next Finance Committee meeting is Monday, June 7, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

The Public Works committee met before Council this evening.

Mr. Frank Manning is working on gathering additional quotes for the Grant Memorial plaster repair and interior painting.

Mr. Dotson will be forwarding a summary of the paving inspection done by the Public Works Department to the committee, with the expectation of taking the paving project to bid in the next month.

The playground equipment repairs and replacements will be done in-house, with the original manufacturer providing the replacement parts.

The resurfacing and lighting of the tennis courts may be a good candidate for an ODNR grant next year.

Mr. Shane Wilson forwarded the sign specifications to the committee for the ball fields. The ads will be 2'X4' banners that may be easily moved/removed. The committee has asked the signs' appearance be kept in mind and properly maintained. Overall, the sponsorship is seen as a good thing, promoting community spirit.

A motion allowing Bethel Boosters to place signage at the ball fields was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All yeas.

The next Public Works Committee meeting will be Monday, June 21, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Gary Hutchinson

The next Safety Committee meeting will be June 14, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Mary Daugherty

The next Personnel Committee meeting will be Monday, June 21, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton

Ms. Ireton thanked Mayor Dick for filling in for her absence at the graduation ceremony. Following are the 2010 Edmund G. Burke Scholarship winners: Amanda Ingram, Maddie Davis, Louis Scchaljo, Lacy Barr, Kevin Poe, Lauren Barr, Justin Thompson, Shaina Wheeler, Denise Floyd, Catherine Carnahan.

Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson

The Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Dick asked that the commission review the community survey.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: Congratulations to the seniors for all your hard work, and thanks to Judi Adams for BAMFest.

Janice Ireton: Thanked everyone for their support during the past week. It has been hard, and the sentiments meant a lot.

Donna Gunn: Cub Scout Pack #401 is donating 10 dogwoods for Burke Park. Public Works will need to mark where the trees should be planted.

The BAMFest Committee has requested that no yard sale permits be issued for the day of the BAMFest event. The restriction can only apply to residential permits. Mr. Dotson stated Council would need to make a motion in the spring, restricting the permits. Mayor Dick believes the issue may be dealt with before then, due to a review of all rental and permit agreements. (Yard sales, Community Center rental, etc)

Gary Hutchinson: Announced his resignation effective at the close of tonight's Council meeting. Due to health concerns and other issues, he believes he cannot continue.

Tim Cherry: Is going to miss Mr. Hutchinson, but understands.

Congratulations to the Class of 2010.

Mary Daugherty: Hearing of Mr. Hutchinson's resignation makes this a sad day.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Doug Stacy spoke before Council regarding high grass and the Door Store papers.

Mayor Dick informed Mr. Stacy that Ron Dunn, code enforcement officer, had been contacting property owners of maintenance violations, but the process is lengthy, with legal considerations. Even if property owners are assessed if the Village mows the property, it is unlikely the Village will ever recover the expense. Residents need to indicate if the potential loss of their tax dollars is worth the property upkeep. Mr. Stacy suggested having community service workers and/or people that cannot pay their traffic fines mow the overgrown lawns.

Mr. Leicht addressed the Door Store publications, that were also an issue in the '70s. The publications are protected under free speech.

Mr. Stacy thanked Mayor Dick for handing out the car show trophies at BAMFest.

Mr. Rus Whitley echoed Mr. Stacy's comments on the overgrown properties around town. Mr. Hutchinson questioned if the property maintenance could be done by the Sheriff's Department Trustees, but Chief Planck believes their work is limited to maintenance of the county properties. Such a service could cause a wind fall of requests, because property maintenance is an issue for all the local municipalities.

Mr. Dunn has sent out 22 letters to owners notifying them of code violations. The most prevalent offenses are rental properties with absentee landlords, though it's not always the same properties. Ms. Daugherty stated the letters are required to be mailed certified, though that is not always the case.

Mr. Whitley thanked Mr. Hutchinson for his service and hates to see him go.

LEGISLATION

(It was noted that Mayor Dick has asked the Village Administrator to read the legislation in its entirety during the first and third readings)

ORDINANCE 1636 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A NOTICE OF GRANT AGREEMENT, 3rd reading

A motion to adopt ORD 1636 Authorizing the ODNR Grant Agreement was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. By roll: Ms. Gunn "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Daugherty "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Ms. Ireton "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea". Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 1637 AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF BETHEL DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010, 2nd reading

RESOLUTION 885 ESTIMATING THE PROBABLE AGGREGATE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ACTIVE FUNDS AND INACTIVE FUNDS TO BE DEPOSITED BY THE COUNCIL AND AUTHORIZING AWARDS, 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 886 AUTHORIZING THE ADVANCE OF FUNDS FOR THE RESURFACING OF THE VILLAGE WALK PATH, 2nd reading

ORDINANCE 1639 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CASE CX36 EXCAVATOR WITH BUCKETS AND A TRAILER, 1st reading

RESOLUTION 887 REQUESTING \$20K FROM THE BURKE TRUST COMMISSION FOR 2010 SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Leicht stated the resolution is just a formality, and the readings do not have to be waived.

A motion adopting RES 887 Requesting \$20K from the Burke Trust for 2010 Scholarships was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. By roll: Ms. Ireton "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Ms. Daugherty "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Gunn "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea". Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses (checks 20861-20877, including tuition reimbursement for \$500 to Ms. Burton and the Zoning Administrator's May, 2010 salary, OPERS and Medicare contributions) was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Ireton. All yea.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. All yea. 7:35 p.m.

James T. Dick, Mayor

Angelina Burton, Fiscal Officer