

## **Bethel Village Council June 27, 2011**

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., with Mayor James Dick presiding.

Ms. Ireton 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, Alan Ausman, Village Administrator Travis Dotson, Solicitor George Leicht and Fiscal Officer Bill Gilpin. Council Member Tim Cherry was absent.

Also present were Chief Planck, Gary Hutchinson, Ruth Gelter of the Independent Press, Mary Dannemiller of the Bethel Journal, Lucy Shepherd, Kristin Bednerski, Sharon Lucik, USDA, Denver Eversole, Kathy Cromer and Jeremiah S. Hembree.

A motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2011 meeting, as written, was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Ireton. All ye.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Sharon Lucik announced that there will be a meeting the Asian longhorn beetle on June 30 from 6 to 8 pm at the community center.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Mayor James T. Dick**

Village wide yard sales will be held the weekend of July 8 through 10.

Many thanks to Mitch Hatfield and Bob Collins for their efforts during the heavy rains on June 26.

There have been many notices sent out for high grass.

Kathy Cromer has been interviewed for the zoning inspector position and is being recommended for appointment.

Kathy Cromer introduced herself and gave council some background information on herself. Rus Whitley asked Kathy Cromer questions about her previous experiences as a zoning inspector.

A motion to appoint Kathy Cromer as zoning inspector and property maintenance code enforcement officer effective July 1, 2011 was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Johnson. All ye.

#### **Village Administrator, Travis Dotson**

The linemen have finished 2 weeks of schooling.

Mitch and Travis attended the Asian longhorn beetle meeting last week at the county.

The utility customer data entry will be complete by the end of the week and may be ready to go live by August 1.

A shelter house rental was canceled due to high water and a full refund will be issued.

#### **Fiscal Officer, Bill Gilpin**

2 items were added to the payment of bills for approval.

2012 tax budget was reviewed in detail with Mayor and Council.

There was discussion on the significant revenue changes that will be forthcoming due to cuts in funding in the next state budget; local government funds are lowered by 25% in 2012 and 50% for 2013; personal property taxes will be phased out immediately. 2012 real estate values are expected to drop by 6 to 8%. The cuts will negatively affect the police operations budget as 55% of the general fund is appropriated for police operations.

**Solicitor George Leicht**

Nil.

**Police Chief Mark Planck**

New police cruiser is doing well.

**Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn**

Next meeting is Tuesday July 5 at 6:00 pm.

**Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry**

Nil, absent.

**Safety Committee, Chairperson Rus Whitley**

Next meeting is July 11 at 6:00 pm.

**Personnel Committee, Chairperson Alan Ausman**

Committee met this evening, discussed Kathy Cromer appointment; Resolution 909-Job descriptions, 3<sup>rd</sup> reading this evening. Also discussed the need to hire a new custodian; Melissa Morgan had previously applied and is still interested in the position; personnel committee is recommending hiring Melissa Morgan at \$10.00 per hour and to start work as soon as possible, contingent upon background checks. There will be no meeting in July.

A motion to hire Melissa Morgan contingent upon background checks, was made by Mr. Ausman. Second by Ms. Gunn. Ms. Johnson, Ms. Ireton, Ms. Gunn and Mr. Ausman voted "yea". Mr. Whitley voted "nay". Motion carried.

**Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton**

Working on getting distributions from the Burke Trust. Congratulatory to the 2011 scholarship recipients and thank you to all that applied.

**Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson**

No meeting in July.

**CALL OF MEMBERS**

Priscilla Johnson: Welcome to Kathy Cromer; will be a great asset to the village.

Janice Ireton: Welcome to Kathy Cromer and Melissa Morgan.

Donna Gunn: Welcome to Kathy Cromer; village residents will benefit greatly .

Rus Whitley: Welcome to Kathy and looking forward to cleanup. Thank you for the support of local churches.

Flag Wall; Thanks for the support and pledges that have been coming in from all around that will be used for a \$1,000 reward. Also, 5 military plaques will be made to install on the stripes. There are volunteers from Duke Energy working on the possibility of installing lights to illuminate the wall.

Ms. Gunn asked Mr. Whitley whom he was working with on charity cases for people who live outside the village. Mr. Whitley replied that Charity Baptist Church has helped people who live outside the village.

Tim Cherry: Absent.

Alan Ausman: Nil.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Gary Hutchinson asked what the terms were for the beetle problem in regards to moving wood within the quarantined area. Mayor Dick replied that the state and federal employees are responsible for enforcing the quarantine and encouraged Gary Hutchinson to attend the upcoming meeting about the beetle problem.

## **LEGISLATION**

RESOLUTION 909-ADOPTING AMENDED JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR CERTAIN VILLAGE EMPLOYEES AND INCORPORATING THE SAME IN THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK, 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

A motion to adopt RES 909 ADOPTING AMENDED JOB DESCRIPTIONS was made by Mr. Ausman. Seconded by Ms. Johnson. By roll: Ms. Gunn “yea”, Ms. Johnson “yea”, Ms. Ireton “yea”, Mr. Whitley “yea”, Mr. Ausman “yea”. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 910-A RESOLUTION DECLARING NECESSITY FOR A LEVY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE BURKE PARK, THE GRANT MEMORIAL BUILDING AND THE COMMUNITY CENTER, PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 5705.19(G), 3rd Reading

There was no motion to adopt Resolution 910.

## **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses totaling \$117,041.72 was made by Ms. Gunn. Second by Mr. Whitley. All yea.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Ireton. All yea. 7:17 p.m.

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James T. Dick, Mayor

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Bill Gilpin, Fiscal Officer