

Bethel Village Council September 28, 2009

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, September 28, 2009, with President Pro-Tempore Donna Gunn presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was videotaped, to be aired on cable television.

Mr. Ausman delivered the invocation, followed by Ms. Gunn leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Upon roll call, the following members were counted as present: Council Members Alan Ausman, Joe Houlihan, Donna Gunn, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, James Dick; Solicitor George Leicht, Village Administrator Travis Dotson, Fiscal Officer Angel Burton. Mayor Swarthout was absent.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2009 meeting, as written, was made by Mr. Ausman. Seconded by Mr. Houlihan. All yeas.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Pro Tempore, Donna Gunn

Ms. Gunn stated Mayor Swarthout continues to recover well from recent surgery, and hopes to be back to work by the end of October.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

Nil.

Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton

The first regular meeting of Council in October, as well as the October Finance meeting, fall on the Columbus Day Holiday.

The October 12 Finance and Council meetings will be rescheduled to Tuesday, October 13th, 2009, with Finance beginning at 5:00 p.m. and Council beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Solicitor George Leicht

Mr. Leicht requests an executive session to discuss the pending litigation.

Police Chief Mark Planck

The 2004 Explorer is being painted "Dodge Charger Gray" by the Grant Career Center students.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The Finance Committee met in special session this evening to discuss the 2010 budget and appropriations. Public Works, Personnel and Safety will be making recommendations to Finance on the budget as well.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

Public Works will be meeting this evening, following the Council meeting.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Joe Houlihan

The next Safety Committee meeting will be Monday, October 5th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The Personnel Committee will meet Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Burke Trust Commission, Chairperson Donna Gunn

Nil

Planning Commission, Councilperson James Dick

The commission has reviewed changes in the zoning fees, and will be making a recommendation to Finance by the next Finance committee meeting.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Alan Ausman: Thanks to all that participated in the Homecoming Parade.

Joe Houlihan: Echoed Mr. Ausman's sentiments.

Donna Gunn: Nil.

Gary Hutchinson: Nil

Tim Cherry: Nil.

James Dick: Received a letter from a concerned citizen regarding property maintenance and potential criminal activity. The information has been forwarded to the Police Chief.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Rus Whitley attended a meeting this past Friday regarding a possible Art Festival being planned for the Village next May. Chief Planck was also there and Mr. Whitley noted he was pleased by how well attended the meeting was.

Mr. Whitley also addressed what he's coined "Project Deep Hole" with Council. While posting election signs this afternoon, a friend of his fell in a deep sink hole in a lot across from the Middle School. The hole is about 10-12 feet deep, with a functioning catch basin approximately 40 feet off SR 125. There seems to be some question as to who it belongs too, and whose responsibility it is – whether it's the State's, the County's, the Village's or the property owner's. There is a manhole at the street with a line connecting to the drain. The hole has been barricaded to prevent anyone else from falling in.

Mr. Cherry stated the county sanitary lines run on the south side of 125, and he believes the distance off the road is out of the State's right-of-way. It may be private property but it is unusual to tie in at the main line on the street. An easement is not indicated, but responsibility needs to be determined.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 1626 AMENDING 2009 APPROPRIATIONS, 2nd reading

ORDINANCE 1627 AMENDING SECTION IV-A OF ORDINANCE 1592, SETTING RATES FOR WATER TAP FEES AND ADDING SECTION VII-O, SETTING FINES FOR METER TAMPERING, 1st reading

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. All yea.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation was made by Mr. Ausman. Seconded by Mr. Dick. By roll: Mr. Ausman "yea", Mr. Dick "yea", Mr. Houlihan "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea". 6:48 p.m.

A motion to enter regular session was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. By roll: Mr. Cherry "yea", Mr. Ausman "yea", Mr. Houlihan "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Mr. Dick "yea". 7:04 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Mr. Houlihan. All yea. 7:05 p.m.