

Bethel Village Council November 8, 2011

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, November 8, 2010 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 Donna Gunn, Priscilla Johnson, Janice Ireton, Rus Whitley, Tim Cherry; Village Administrator Travis Dotson and Solicitor George Leicht. Council member Mary Daugherty and Fiscal Officer Angel Burton were absent.

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

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2010 meeting, as written, was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Johnson. 4 yeas – Ms. Gunn abstain.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pastor Jeremiah Hembrey, from the Bethel Assembly of God, addressed Council on behalf of the Ministerial Association. The Annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be Sunday, November 21, 2010 at St. Mary's Church. A prayer service to pray for the community, local, state and federal governments will begin at 6:15 p.m. Pastor Scott Wade from the Nazarene Church will present this year's message beginning at 7:00 p.m.

REPORTS

Mayor James T. Dick

October Mayor's Court collections totaled \$6325, with \$4873 going to the Village, \$1450 going to the State and \$2 in restitution.

Mayor Dick will be attending the monthly Mayor's Meeting on the 13th in New Richmond, and a Joy of Adoption Dinner, put on by Children's Protective Services, on the 18th. He will be presenting an adoption proclamation at the dinner.

The Burke Park/Grant Memorial Levy that has been on the books since 1949 failed to pass at last week's election, as well as many other local levy renewals. The levy brought in approximately \$24K for the care and upkeep of the Grant Memorial Building and the Burke Park. The funds were split 50/50 between the two. For 2011, the Grant Memorial expenses will be paid from the General Fund, though there is enough money in the Burke Park fund to cover the parks care for 2011. The funds had been set aside in anticipation of cabin restoration.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

Mr. Dotson passed out copies of bid specifications for the Village's 5 year garbage contract to Council for their consideration. The bid specs allow for separate bids for garbage collection and recycling, as well as the right for Council to reject bids in whole or in part.

A motion authorizing the Village Administrator to advertise and seek bids for the Village's refuse collection was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Mr. Cherry. All yeas.

The RFP will be advertised for 2 weeks, beginning November 22, 2010, with bids due by December 3rd. That will give Council enough time to review the bids and make a recommendation at the December 13th meeting.

Mayor Dick and Mr. Leicht commended Mr. Dotson on the work he has done with the Village's bid specifications and contracts.

Rack Seven Paving has finished the street cuts for the full-depth repairs, and should begin blacktopping the week of November 15th.

The Walk-Path resurfacing will begin November 9th, and Jim Nickell's Blacktopping will be completing the project.

Mr. Dotson emailed pictures of the new park table to Council.

The water tower base had to be replaced, due to continued leaks. The work was done by a local welder, for a very reasonable price. The pressure test was successful, and the tank will be refilled following a 10 day epoxy process.

The contractor will begin work on the secure payment window on November 29th.

Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton

Absent.

Solicitor George Leicht

Would like a short executive session at the end of the meeting, to discuss potential litigation.

Police Chief Mark Planck

Nil.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The committee met on November 3rd, 2010 and worked on the 2011 appropriations. There are a few things outstanding that need to be discussed, and Ms. Gunn asked committee chairs to get all their 2011 plans in order. The goal is to have the appropriation ordinance before Council for a first reading at the November 22, 2010 meeting. The appropriations will also be reviewed by the Financial Oversight Commission at the November 30th meeting. Ms. Gunn is confident the State will be pleased with the Village's progress.

A special Finance committee meeting will be held Wednesday, November 17th at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the 2011 appropriations.

The committee also recommends a few additions to the Village's liability insurance coverage, including \$500K in electric pole coverage, earthquake coverage and an increased liability amount. Then additional premium cost is \$5800.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

The next meeting is Monday, November 15, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Rus Whitley

The committee met this evening. Two of the three new auxiliary officers have begun working, and are doing a fine job.

The leaning electric pole at IGA has been straightened.

The Crown Victoria cruiser, #501, has been retired from use. Mr. Leicht advised the cruiser be sold "as-is, where-is, all faults, no warranties." He is still waiting for the Chief to get him the details on the property to dispose, and Mayor Dick believes the intent is to add the vehicle to that list.

The next meeting is Monday, December 13, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Mary Daugherty

The next Personnel Committee meeting is Monday, November 22, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton

Ms. Ireton received the 3rd quarter statement on the Burke Trust Fund, and the investment is in very good shape.

The Burke Trust Commission did approve the purchase of 2 benches and the additional Grant Memorial work. Mr. Manning suggested both benches be placed at the park, instead of putting one in front of the museum.

Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson

Nil.

Rules of Council, Donna Gunn

Ms. Gunn will be forwarding Ms. Daugherty's concerns to the other committee members, with a meeting date forthcoming.

Records Commission

Mr. Leicht spoke on behalf of the Records Commission. Departments will be receiving copies of retention schedules, for updates. Application will be made with the State for a records disposal to occur sometime in the spring or summer of 2011.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: Nil.

Janice Ireton: Visited the Bick Primary last week, to deliver the coloring contest prizes. It was a great time, with happy kids and appreciative teachers.

Donna Gunn: Reminded everyone that the Down Home Christmas will be Saturday, December 4th. Volunteers are always needed. The event begins at noon, with the parade at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Gunn will have an event schedule for the next Council meeting. There is a DHC meeting tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. at the Grant Memorial Building.

Rus Whitley: Reminded everyone to be mindful of the Village crosswalks.

Tim Cherry: Veteran's Day is Thursday, and he thanked all those that have served, and are currently serving. He encouraged everyone to take care of those that have taken care of us.

Mayor Dick thanked Mr. Whitley for his service, and Mr. Whitley returned the thanks to the Mayor for his.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Ruth Gelter, from 310 Ash Street, spoke to Council regarding flooding issues on her property. The storm water problems began as a result of work done by the Village on private property in the eighties, though other developments have compounded the issue. She originally brought the matter to Council's attention in 1996, and despite being told the problem would be addressed, nothing has ever been done. Her property was evaluated by an engineer (Stein), and 3 options were submitted to consider in alleviating the problem. She would like to know if drainage repairs for her property have been added to the 2011 appropriations.

Mr. Cherry stated the Village did consider Stein's proposals. Two of the options involved extensive work on private property that the Village cannot access, and the third involved extravagant pipe work and manholes. Mr. Stein was asked to prepare a proposal involving daylighting pipe to a ditch, as a more cost effective measure, but nothing was ever received.

Mr. Leicht acknowledged the Village is responsible for the work that caused the storm water swales on Ms. Gelter's property.

Mayor Dick asked that Public Works make a priority list of storm water problems in the Village. Work can then be done in phases, and as the Village is able. Mayor Dick asked Ms.

Gelter if she would be willing to grant the Village access to her property, in order to make the necessary repairs. Ms. Gelter stated she would be willing to discuss a plan with the Village, though she does not want herself or her neighbors to incur any property liens as a result of the work. Mayor Dick assured Ms. Gelter she would not be charged for the work. Mr. Whitley also clarified that the work would involve pipe replacement and subsequent seed and straw.

LEGISLATION

Nil.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

The bill list includes another payment to Prosource, bringing the amount due to them over the past 2 months to \$1000. Mr. Whitley wants more information on the expense, before the check is released. Mayor Dick pointed out the bill payment details listed the payment as a quarterly service fee, through January 2011. Ms. Burton will forward more information on the payment to Council.

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses (checks 21695-21739; conditional approval of 21697 to Prosource, pending payment clarification) was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Ms. Ireton. All yea.

OCTOBER EXPENSES

A motion to approve the October, 2010 expenses, as presented (checks 21551-21673, in addition to payroll and direct charges), was made by Ms. Gunn. Second by Ms. Johnson. All yea.

A motion to enter executive session to discuss potential litigation was made by Mr. Cherry. Second by Ms. Gunn. By roll: Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Gunn "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea", Ms. Ireton "yea", Mr. Whitley "yea". 7:19 p.m.

A motion to enter regular session was made by Ms. Ireton. Second by Ms. Johnson. By roll: Ms. Ireton "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea", Ms. Gunn "yea", Mr. Whitley "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea". 7:34 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Whitley. Second by Mr. Cherry. All yea. 7:35 p.m.

James T. Dick, Mayor

Angelina Burton, Fiscal Officer