

## TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES FROM: October 2, 2017

Council called to order in regular session at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Todd Buehrer presiding. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, here; John Heckerman, absent (working); Connie Mehring, here; Jamin Roe, here; Jason Benedict, absent (working); James Head, here. Also present was Village Administrator/Zoning Inspector/Meter Reader Chad Johnson and Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: Deputy Aring from the Wood County Sheriff's Office; Joe Pemberton and Matt Ziegler from Suburban Natural Gas; Matt Shanahan, village resident, present to observe. Minutes from the September 18 meeting were approved as submitted.

Mayor Buehrer invited Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Ziegler from Suburban Natural Gas to speak to Council. They passed out informational materials to members, went over Suburban's Public Awareness Program, and presented their annual update. They reminded everyone of the importance of calling 811 to notify the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) before any kind of digging, and they gave tips on how to detect gas leaks and what to do if a leak is detected. They also gave Mayor Buehrer an application for community development funds from Suburban. Mr. Pemberton stated that Suburban serves nearly 500 customers in Tontogany, and they offer to provide at least two dollars per customer for our community development fund. Mr. Ziegler reported that they did a major upgrade by tying two large systems together, the Weston system and the Tontogany system, so now they have better coverage in case of a line hit, since gas is flowing both ways; this will also help with any potential growth. Mayor Buehrer asked when they did their last leak test. Mr. Ziegler responded that their last leak survey was two years ago. Councilman Roe asked how the developer who recently annexed property into the village next to the school can contact Suburban about getting gas to the four annexed lots and to possible future land that may be developed out of the 80 acres there as well. Mr. Ziegler gave Councilman Roe a phone number for the developer to reach him to get the ball rolling. Mayor Buehrer mentioned that there are some other houses there with propane tanks right now. Mr. Ziegler responded that they would also have the option of tying in to a Suburban line when placed there. With nothing more to discuss, Mayor Buehrer thanked the gentlemen from Suburban and they left the meeting.

Copies of the September incident report were made available for members to review. Mayor Buehrer invited members to address any questions or concerns they may have to Deputy Aring. Members had nothing to discuss, so Mayor Buehrer thanked the deputy and she left the meeting.

**FINANCE and CLAIMS:** A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Councilwoman Mackey made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilwoman Mehring seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Mayor Buehrer pointed out that one of the bills was for \$4,480.00 from Rowe's Tree Service for trimming trees throughout the town. Mr. Rowe told Mayor Buehrer that he tried to trim them back far enough that the village shouldn't have to do it again for about four years. Copies of the September Bank Reconciliation, Fund Status, Appropriation Status, and Revenue Status reports were given to Mayor Buehrer and the Finance Committee to review.

Mayor Buehrer did a second reading, by title only, of Ordinance #880-17, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SIDEWALK REQUIREMENTS.

Mayor Buehrer did a first reading, by title only, of Resolution #882-17, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF TONTOGANY TO RENEW AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WOOD COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION FOR SERVICES TO REPRESENT INDIGENT PERSONS CHARGED ONLY UNDER VILLAGE ORDINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2018. Mayor Buehrer explained that we have to do this every year, even though it is unlikely we will actually use it, since the Sheriff's Department generally charges people under state or federal ordinances.

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**ZONING:** Zoning Inspector Johnson reported that he was indirectly contacted by his brother about a concerned resident, who received a letter of notification that the Village Planning Commission will hold a hearing on October 23, 2017, to discuss Jerry Asmus' application for a zoning change from R-1 to R-2 for his parcels on Wall Street next to their property. The resident will most likely attend the hearing to make known their concerns. Councilman Roe asked if Mr. Asmus has paid the zoning application fee yet. Zoning Inspector Johnson and Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger responded that they have not received payment of that fee yet. Mr. Johnson stated that he told Mr. Asmus about a month ago that he needed to pay the fee.

**UTILITIES:** Meter Reader Johnson reported that he has been working on installing new radio-read electric meters. He has installed 21 and has about 8 or 10 more to change out. The only ones left are the demand meters, which are much more expensive. Utilities Clerk Harnishfeger stated that there are 8 demand meters total. Mr. Johnson said he had a problem with a couple of meters at the school; we will probably have to have Bowling Green Electric come and look at them. They are not demand meters, but they are different from the normal meters and we cannot replace them with what we have.

**STREETS and ALLEYS:** Councilwoman Mackey asked if we had received any word on when striping would be done on Tontogany Creek Road. Mayor Buehrer answered that it would hopefully get done as part of the county package when they come to do that. He added that he was trying to hold off to get Broad Street restriped after it is milled and repaved from the derailment, so it could all be done at one time. The county is still about two or three weeks from doing theirs, so they will do ours when they do theirs. Broad Street will probably have to be done at a different time, after it gets paved, which might not be until spring. Councilwoman Mackey firmly stated that she thinks we should have Tontogany Creek Road done as quickly as possible because of the school traffic, whether or not we do Broad Street. She emphasized that it is an important safety issue. Mayor Buehrer answered that he would call Zimmerman tomorrow and see if they can come over, separate from the county, and do it this week.

Councilwoman Mehring ask the mayor if he could mow the ditch banks like he did before. Mayor Buehrer said he will be doing it one more time this year. He reaches as far down as he can on the bank.

**SIDEWALKS and TREES:** Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reminded members that we haven't yet set a date for village brush removal, which is usually done in the fall on the fourth Monday of October. After a short discussion, it was decided to do brush pickup this year on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Councilwoman Mackey volunteered to post flyers in town. Mr. Harnishfeger said he would post a flyer on the website as usual. Members also decided that leaf pickup will be each Monday in November this year, as usual. Councilwoman Mackey will post flyers for that in town as well, and Mr. Harnishfeger will post a flyer on the website.

Mr. Harnishfeger reported that he has been sending items to be posted on the village website, but they were not posted for about a month. He finally heard from Laurie Limes and she explained that she has been having problems with our web hosting company and issues with web-space limits, which she is working to resolve. Councilwoman Mehring reported that she happened to talk with Ms. Limes recently, who informed her similarly, and also said she had been distracted somewhat because her husband had undergone surgery. We may have to switch web hosting companies and Laurie doesn't know how long she will continue doing website maintenance for the village, but she has agreed to help us through the transition.

Councilman Roe reported that he called and spoke with Jerry Miller about the village sidewalk ordinance which is in the process of being passed this year, and which will require new home builders to lay sidewalks. Mr. Miller told Councilman Roe that he will put the requirement in his contracts for future buyers. Mr. Miller also informed Councilman Roe that he is requiring all of the new home owners on his

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lots there to put up a split rail fence across the right of way in front of their property, as well as to plant street trees.

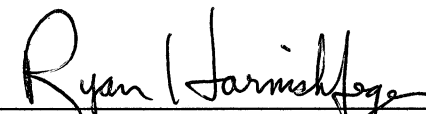
Councilman Roe asked members what they thought about the village holding off on using the \$10,000.00 that was appropriated this year for fixing bad spots in sidewalks throughout town. He proposed rolling it over to next year and adding another \$10,000.00 to it, for a total of \$20,000.00, and to ask the school to go half and half with the village in the cost to lay sidewalks in front of the school, from Crom Street to Scott Road. And, if we are going to get the school involved, Mr. Roe suggested that we need to contact them now so they can budget money for the project. Mr. Roe asked if members were okay with the idea. Councilwoman Mackey stated that she was fine with it. Other members voiced no objections. Mayor Buehrer said he would contact Superintendent Adam Koch about the matter and invite him to come to our next meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**DRAINS and SEWERS:** Nothing to report.

**CITY HALL and PARKS:** Mayor Buehrer asked when the park grant comes out. Councilman Head said he wasn't sure when it comes out. Councilwoman Mackey reported that she has had several people, including students and adults, complain to her about the broken basketball backboard at Centennial Park. Ms. Mackey asked if there is any reason Council can't go ahead and replace the backboard, even though it is part of the grant request. Mayor Buehrer explained that we could replace it on our own, but we could not turn in the bill later to come out of the grant money; the purchase would have to be dated after the grant. However, we could probably get permission to use the grant money, originally intended for a backboard, to be used for something else at the park. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger did a quick search and informed members that the village appropriated \$7,000.00 this year for park supplies and materials, so we could definitely cover the cost of a completely new basketball pole and backboard of better quality. Mayor Buehrer said he would get pricing information on the basketball goals that the township purchased, which are better quality than the ones the village purchased.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Buehrer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

  
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Todd Buehrer, Mayor

  
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Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer