

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: May 7, 2018

Council called to order in regular session at 7:26 p.m. with Mayor Todd Buehrer presiding. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, absent; John Heckerman, here; Connie Mehring, here; Jamin Roe, absent; Jason Benedict, here; Matthew Shanahan, here. Also present were Village Administrator/Utilities Superintendent/Zoning Inspector/Meter Reader Chad Johnson and Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: Donald Buehrer to discuss his driveway; Wood County Sheriff's Deputy Michael Meyers. Minutes from the April 16 meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCE and CLAIMS: A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger pointed out that both the March and April invoices from the Wood County Sheriff's Office were on the list, because the March bill came to us after the April 16 meeting. Councilman Shanahan made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilman Benedict seconded this motion. All were in favor, except that Councilman Heckerman abstained from voting on Josh Heckerman's \$390.00 mowing invoice; motion carried. Copies of the April Bank Reconciliation, Fund Status, Revenue Status, and Appropriation Status reports were given to Mayor Buehrer and the Finance Committee to review.

Copies of the March and April incident reports were provided for members to review. Mayor Buehrer invited members to direct any questions or concerns they may have to Deputy Meyers. There were no questions, so Mayor Buehrer thanked the deputy and he left the meeting.

Mayor Buehrer invited Donald Buehrer to speak to members. Mr. Buehrer informed members that he was intending to pave his driveway at 18555 Lincoln Street, but wanted to come first and get the village council's thoughts about doing so, find out what would be required for him to do it, and to clarify some questions as to who would be responsible if repairs were needed. The problem is that his driveway actually runs along the village alley there, and there is a water line and a storm sewer running along the alley. There is also a large concrete block in the middle of the alley. After some discussion, Mayor Buehrer summed up the matter, stating that what Donald is using as a driveway is, basically, a village alley. It is covered with stone now, but if Donald it were to pave it with asphalt and then a water or sewer line repair were needed, the village would be responsible for the cost of tearing up the driveway/alley and then repaving it at a greater expense than just laying stone. Councilman Shanahan asked what would be the difference in cost to repair it as stone, compared to asphalt. Mayor Buehrer said it would depend on how much asphalt you had to replace and the cost of creating a solid base so it doesn't sink. Councilman Shanahan asked Donald Buehrer what his timeline was. He replied that he came to get clarification from council members first and then he will consider a timeline. Mayor Buehrer asked Donald Buehrer to wait until all council members are here to make a decision on the matter and then we will let him know. With nothing more to discuss on the matter, Donald Buehrer left the meeting.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported receiving the annual letter from the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA), offering their free letter program to follow up on delinquent income tax filers. To participate in the letter program, RITA just needs to receive the village's signed authorization by June 1, 2018. Mr. Harnishfeger asked for Council's approval for him to sign and return the authorization form to RITA for the village. Members agreed, with no objections voiced.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that the old burned up portable restroom enclosure was removed and a new enclosure put up. The village received a bill for \$984.52 from Rusty Nail Handyman Services for the work done. The bill was forwarded to Hylant Administrative Services as part of our insurance claim, who responded that it is being submitted for payment. Mr. Harnishfeger said he also called Rusty Nail to let them know the bill was turned in to our insurance for payment. Mayor Buehrer reported that he received a phone call from one of the young men who participated in burning the potty and fence down. The mayor had told them in the fall that there wasn't much we could have them do at

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that time, but to call back in the spring. The young man's dad is making him do things to make amends, regardless of the court's decision. The young man will be given the job of painting the new potty fence enclosure so it matches the other one at Centennial Park. We may have him go down and paint the one at Centennial Park too. Mayor Buehrer said he hasn't had a chance to talk to the young man's dad about how much more work he wants him to do for the village. If the court requires community service, unless they specify that the service must be for Tontogany, it could be done anywhere. Mayor Buehrer said that he hasn't heard anything from the court on whether they have to make restitution or anything like that. Also, he has only heard from one boy and his dad, but nothing from the other two boys who were involved.

Mayor Buehrer asked Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger if he found out what the court subpoena for electric utility information on 12 addresses was all about, reported at the last meeting. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that he compiled the information they requested and emailed it to Detective Destinie Peterson at the Wood County Sheriff's Office, as required, in order to not have to appear in court. But he never heard back from them and was never informed as to what the case was all about and why they needed the electric utility information.

ZONING: Zoning Inspector Johnson reported that Steve Powell's renters at 18550 Main Street were asking about putting in an above ground temporary pool. Mr. Johnson said he had not heard anything more about the new home on Wall Street.

UTILITIES: Utilities Superintendent Johnson asked the mayor what he thought about having Palmer come and dig the hydrant out, get measurements, and then install the new one when it arrives. Mayor Buehrer agreed that that would be fine.

Mr. Johnson reported that he had to mark the electrical on the new house on Tontogany Creek Road. They will be doing final grade on that tomorrow. He also said Jill Murphy had asked him about the spot across the road on her side where they dug it up to do a water tap and left it unfinished, if they were going to do something about the spot. Mr. Johnson asked if we should have Palmer come out, level that spot off and seed it. Mayor Buehrer agreed that we should, and he said we could ask them to do it at the same time they come to do the hydrant.

Mayor Buehrer reported that the storm that went through on Friday knocked down some lines in town. It knocked an electric service pole down behind Mark Yeary's house, which ran electric to Mark Yeary's home and Jerry Asmus' rental unit next door. The pole fell on Mark Yeary's fence and broke a couple of sections of the fence. Mayor Buehrer said he stopped in at the office and asked Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger to contact our insurance to have them look into the matter. Mr. Yeary said that, if they can't match the sections of fence, he would want the whole fence replaced. Mr. Harnishfeger said he contacted Hylant insurance but has not heard back from them yet. He commented that they may ask if any pictures were taken. Mayor Buehrer responded that it is the insurance company's responsibility to investigate and take pictures; we should just let them handle it.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Councilwoman Mehring inquired about the large school sign that is leaning over. Mayor Buehrer responded that we are going to put new posts in down through there. The sign also had a piece broken off. Someone hit it and knocked it down at one point. We got new reflectors for the front of it and new posts. The problem with driving the posts is that there is a water line underneath. So you can only drive the posts so deep and then the wind catches the sign and blows it over. Councilman Shanahan asked if the sign could be moved over. Mayor Buehrer answered that he could move it over if he knew where the water line is, but if he goes too far over then it would be in the way of the sidewalk. If he goes too close to the road, school buses hit the sign.

Mayor Buehrer reported that we are still playing games with CSX, but he told them that the longer we have to wait to get our roads taken care of, the more gets added to it. They are still trying to get

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their insurance adjustor's information to the mayor. They have had three different people in the last eleven months or so. Mayor Buehrer said he made a call to Senator Randy Gardner for some assistance with some CSX issues, since Randy had told him to call if he needs anything. There were 70 tanker cars of paint sitting outside of town for five days blocking the Tuller Road crossing. CSX doesn't seem to care. We have called them. The Sheriff's Department can't do anything about it. We called Congressman Bob Latta about it, but that didn't get us anywhere.

Councilman Heckerman mentioned the problem with bridge intersections in town looking kind of shabby with growth around them. We had hoped neighbors with adjoining properties might trim around the bridges, but they aren't. Mr. Heckerman said he asked our mowing service people if they would be interested in hitting them once a month. They don't want to spray them, but they are willing to whack them or mow them for us. Mayor Buehrer asked if Josh gave Mr. Heckerman a price. He said he did not. Mayor Buehrer said Liz told him it would be no more than \$10.00 per intersection. He told her we would talk about it at a council meeting and make sure everyone is okay with that.

Councilman Heckerman asked if Liz Heckerman mentioned anything to the mayor about tree branches that someone cut down and left behind the town hall. Mayor Buehrer answered that Liz had not mentioned it to him. Mr. Heckerman said she may have just hauled them away.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Mayor Buehrer reported that he removed the tree that someone knocked down last winter in front of Mark Lay's apartments on Crom Street. He also removed the stump. He said Mr. Lay told him he gave all the information for the insurance company to the person at the village hall when he first called about it in December. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger responded that all he remembers was that Mr. Lay called and said someone hit the tree and his tenant knew who it was. He doesn't remember any insurance information being given to him. He called the mayor at the time to inform him that the tree was knocked down and Mr. Lay wanted it eventually removed from his property. Mayor Buehrer said he told Mr. Lay that he would bring some dirt and fill the hole in when conditions are good for doing so.

DRAINS and SEWERS: Councilman Heckerman reported that he saw something he had never seen before, during the days when it was raining and we got two inches overnight. The storm sewer that runs by the Carryout, down Tontogany Creek Road, turns and comes down to the alley by the elevator—he noticed water boiling out of the lid, even though the storm sewers are as huge as they are. Mayor Buehrer commented that a lot of water comes through there.

Councilwoman Mehring reported that the round meter cover in the driveway at 18545 Lincoln Street is crooked and needs to be leveled. Meter Reader Johnson responded that the owner talked to him about that when he was reading meters. Mayor Buehrer commented that it has been that way for a long time. If she is going to redo her driveway, it can be straightened then. If not, it would have to be cut out and straightened. Mr. Johnson said it looked like it had been redone before. Mr. Johnson also stated that he thinks there should be an ordinance that disallows meter pits to be in driveways. For instance, they paved around the one at the Carryout and now it has problems, but you can't get down in there to do anything with it.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Utilities Superintendent Johnson reported that he fixed the drinking fountain at Centennial Park. After fixing it, a small stream of water continued coming out of the fountain where you drink. Councilman Shanahan commented that he was there last week with sixth and seventh graders, and there was nothing streaming out of it at that time. Mr. Johnson said he will check into it some more and try to get it working properly. Mr. Johnson also reported that he thought he remembered a complaint from bicyclers last summer that the side spigot on the fountain didn't work. So he played around with that also, but he couldn't get it to work. Mr. Johnson asked if we should call in a plumbing company to look at the fountain and get the side spigot and the top drinking fountain working right.

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Councilman Heckerman recommended Gearhart, if we do. Mayor Buehrer said it would be up to members if they want to call a professional plumber in to work on it, but he suggested talking with Brandon Johnson first to see what he knows about getting it set up to work right. Mayor Buehrer offered to come down and help when Mr. Johnson works on it.

Mayor Buehrer reported that they took the old basketball pole out and the concrete chunk. The day they did it was very wet. Shortly after that, they came to try to put the new one in, but the hole was full of water and there was something solid in the bottom. Palmer was called in to dig down in the hole and remove rocks to make room for the new base to be installed. They got the base and were going to come and install the new pole on Friday, but they couldn't because of too much rain softening the ground. They intend to try again later this week, if conditions are dry enough.

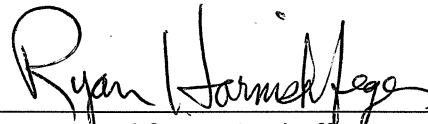
Mayor Buehrer reported that Councilman Roe told him he hasn't heard back from Lake Erie about the posts along the front of Centennial Park, but he will call them again this week. A question was asked about whether we really need the posts. Mayor Buehrer responded that they provide a visible boundary that shows we don't want people driving past them onto the park. Mayor Buehrer also reported that Councilman Roe intends to contact Dave Kuhn about where they are on the right-of-way surveying.

Councilman Shanahan reported that he will be attending the Wood County Park District meeting on Wednesday, May 9th, to receive park grant applications and information about properly completing grant applications. Mayor Buehrer asked if we have an idea of what we want to apply for. Councilwoman Mehring mentioned repaving the court at the park as one thing. Councilman Shanahan asked if we have to put in three different grant requests. Mayor Buehrer answered that we don't have to, but we are allowed to submit three different ones.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Buehrer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.



Todd Buehrer, Mayor



Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer