

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: October 15, 2018

Council called to order in regular session at 7:08 p.m. with Mayor Todd Buehrer presiding. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, here; John Heckerman, here; Connie Mehring, here; Jamin Roe, absent (working); 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: Otsego School students Ian Wallace, Noah Keifer, Isabella Mancuso, and Grace Mancuso, attending for government class. Minutes from the October 1 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 C & L Sanitation had billed us through November 4 for portable restrooms at the park, which should be the end of our season. Councilwoman Mackey responded that she would call them to have the portable restrooms removed at that time. Mr. Harnishfeger reported that final bills have not been received yet from ICUgro and Moulton & Associates for web services; we should be billed at the end of October when Winged Design has finished converting to a new website and hosting. Mark Sarkan, owner of ICUgro, had informed Mr. Harnishfeger that the village's domain name needed renewing immediately and Mr. Harnishfeger gave him permission to renew it and add the cost to his final bill, so it wouldn't expire. Mayor Buehrer pointed out that the bills included 15 hours of extra work done by Chad Johnson for an extra \$300.00 on his October payroll. Councilman Shanahan made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilman Heckerman seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Buehrer gave a third reading, by title only, of Resolution #892-18, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WOOD COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. Councilwoman Mackey made a motion to adopt Resolution #892-18. Councilman Benedict seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Buehrer gave a first reading, by title only, of Resolution #893-18, a RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES. Mayor Buehrer explained that we do this every year. It is an agreement to have the Wood County Public Defender represent qualified indigent individuals charged with a violation of a village ordinance, at a cost to the village of \$100.00 per case. Mayor Buehrer said most cases are charged at the state level so we don't deal with them. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger commented that we put aside \$300.00 per year for this purpose, but he does not remember ever using any of it.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger read a letter from the Northwest Wood Ambulance District, requesting Village Council to appoint a member to the Northwest Wood Ambulance District Board of Trustees for the new three-year term of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021. Todd Buehrer's current three-year term will expire on December 31, 2018. The appointment can go to anyone who is a resident in the village and it does not have to be a council member. They would like notice of the appointment sent to them on village letterhead, along with a copy of the minutes of the meeting when the appointment was made, before December 1, 2018. Mayor Buehrer expressed his desire to be reappointed to the new three-year term. Councilwoman Mehring made a motion to appoint Todd Buehrer from the Village of Tontogany as a member to the Northwest Wood Ambulance District Board of Trustees for the three-year term of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021. Councilman Shanahan seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reminded everyone that he is scheduled for Fiscal Officer Training in Perrysburg all day on Tuesday, October 16, so he will not be available in the office on that day, and will not be able to process payroll until Wednesday.

ZONING: Zoning Inspector Johnson reported that he received a call from the fence company doing the replacement fence for Mark Yeary. They wanted to know if they needed a zoning permit. Mr. Johnson

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said he told them no permit would be required if they were putting the replacement fence where the old one was, with the same footprint.

UTILITIES: Utilities Superintendent Johnson said he wanted to get it on record that he thinks they are moving way too fast on the school solar field project. He said Superintendent Adam Koch has been pushing him about it. He wanted to meet by way of a phone conference with the company next Thursday at 6 p.m., on what they want to do. Mr. Johnson said he spoke with former Utilities Superintendent Craig Spoore, who expressed some concerns for the village regarding the proposed solar project. Mayor Buehrer asked what apprehensions Mr. Johnson has about the solar project. Mr. Johnson answered that his concerns are based on talks with Bowling Green and Poggemeyer, that village residents could have higher utility costs. Mr. Johnson said that he doesn't know how that might be the case, but he has been warned that we should take it slowly going into this venture. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger commented that one concern Craig Spoore expressed to him was about what may happen to transformers when power goes backward onto the grid and gets amplified rather than transformed down. Councilman Shanahan commented that he has not found any negative effects reported where similar solar projects were done. Mayor Buehrer added that we will not get much, if any, power back from the school, since they are not building a solar field big enough to even run their whole system. They still intend to buy sixty percent of their power from the village. Mr. Harnishfeger said that Craig Spoore also advised him that the village might want to ask Bowling Green Utilities Director Brian O'Connell, and/or a representative from AMP Ohio that Brian could put us in touch with, to come to a meeting and give the village some technical advice for no charge. Mr. Harnishfeger said he passed that suggestion on to Solicitor Skaff. Mr. Johnson commented that Bowling Green Utilities is a member of AMP Ohio and he agreed that it would be good to have someone from AMP Ohio speak to us and answer questions. Mr. Johnson said he would call Mr. O'Connell and ask him. Councilman Shanahan recommended deciding, specifically, on what we want someone to come and talk to us about. He also suggested having someone representing the solar company to come. Mayor Buehrer commented that we can set up an agreement to credit the school at whatever the current rate is from Bowling Green to the village, so it would change as the rate from Bowling Green changes. Councilman Heckerman suggested that we need to get somebody here to help us know what we are dealing with. Mr. Johnson said he will call Adam Koch and tell him we want someone to come from the solar company to the first meeting in November. He may also talk with Brian O'Connell about him or a representative from AMP Ohio coming as well.

Utilities Superintendent Johnson reported that he scanned our electric pole evaluation and sent it to John Stewart at Bowling Green Electric. He asked Mr. Stewart to look at the three poles that are marked as dangerous. He replied that eight poles need replaced. Mr. Stewart submitted OUPS tickets for all eight poles and Mr. Johnson responded to the OUPS tickets. Mr. Johnson asked if anybody had seen Bowling Green in town replacing poles yet. Mayor Buehrer replied that he hadn't seen them yet.

Mr. Johnson reported, as his extra hours sheet for payroll listed, he has been doing some work changing meters and working on meter pits before winter. He changed some problem radio-reads to touch-reads. He ordered various pit supplies from Perrysburg Pipe.

Mr. Johnson asked, in regard to a customer moving out of town while behind on utility payments, if there wasn't some policy to send a letter and turn off utilities if anyone gets more than, say, \$500.00 behind. The mayor and Mr. Harnishfeger explained that letters go out to renters and landlords quarterly, warning of certification to the county auditor for delinquent utilities, to be placed on the property owner's tax duplicate. Landlords also get a copy of each utility bill, so they can know if a tenant is falling behind on utilities and can take needed action. It would be hard to set a standard limit, since customers use different amounts of utilities. Also, we do not have personnel available to turn off and turn back on utilities at any moment. That is why the ordinance to certify delinquent utilities was created.

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STREETS and ALLEYS: Councilwoman Mackey reminded everyone that brush pickup is scheduled for Monday, October 22. She reported that she saw what she considered to be an excessive amount of brush at a residence on Main Street. Mayor Buehrer answered that he saw it too, and wasn't sure if it was excessive or not.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Councilman Shanahan asked if we got an update on the bad maple tree in front of Enright's that needs to come down. Mayor Buehrer replied that we did not. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that he has not received a quote from Rowe's Tree Service yet. Mayor Buehrer said he would call Abe Rowe again about it.

DRAINS and SEWERS: Administrator Johnson asked what they were doing at the corner of Broad and Washington Street. Mayor Buehrer replied that Palmer replaced two catch basins there. They were finishing up the work today. The mayor said he look at the one on the other side of the road and didn't see anything wrong with it.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Mayor Buehrer reported that he sees people using the basketball court every day on his way to work. They are there day and night. Councilwoman Mackey said she hopes we can get the cracked court replaced. Councilwoman Mehring reported that a child playing there fell because of the crack and hurt his knee. Administrator Johnson asked if anyone had seen the message sign Weston put up by their ball diamond. It is really lit up. Mayor Buehrer agreed that those message boards are a great idea and a great way to communicate things to the community, like brush pickup or other events.

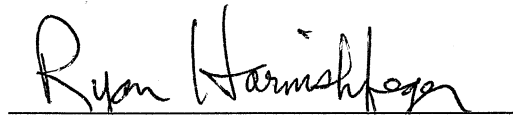
Councilman Shanahan reported that he has been working with Haley Wilkins on our new website. She is way ahead of schedule. He said they are intending to put up everybody's picture and a small bio of each person. That way people will know from the website who is on council, by face and name. People will also be able to see who is on each committee, so they know who to ask about a particular topic. Mr. Shanahan asked everyone to send him, by email or some method, a short bio, which he will give to Haley to put on the website. He said he could take headshot pictures at the next meeting. Haley also suggested possibly a group picture. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger asked if he should send any more updates to Moulton & Associates to post, or if we should send any new information to Haley now. Mr. Shanahan advised just sending any new material to Haley to go onto the new website. She may be able to come and give us a new-website preview before it goes live. Once it goes live, she will have trained Councilman Shanahan how to do updates, so we shouldn't have to send anything to Haley. Mr. Shanahan may ask her some questions at first, but he should soon be able to maintain it alone.

Mayor Buehrer asked if the Otsego students had any questions. There were none.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Buehrer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Todd Buehrer, Mayor


Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer