

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: May 20, 2019

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, here; Connie Mehring, absent at roll call, but arrived at 7:14 p.m.; Jamin Roe, absent; Jason Benedict, here; Matthew Shanahan, here. Also present was Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: Luke and Matt Weaver for an Eagle Scout project. Minutes from the May 6 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 one of the bills was a reimbursement to Karen Graf for \$700.00 that she paid out of pocket for a village sidewalk repair downtown. She made a \$350.00 down payment and gave some paperwork to Mayor Buehrer. Then she paid the final \$350.00 and is in the process of getting a receipt. Mr. Harnishfeger said he told Ms. Graf that the village will reimburse her as soon as we get the receipts for her payments. 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 invited Luke and Matt Weaver to speak to members. Luke reported that his Eagle Scout service project to replace the posts at Centennial Park was approved. Matt Weaver explained that they would need a total of 60 new posts. They would also like to find a post hole digger to use for the project. They pulled one old post out, to test how difficult it would be; it came out without much effort. Members gave Luke and Matt contact information for Councilman Roe, who has information on where to get new posts. Mayor Buehrer called Councilman Roe, who said he would contact the company that supplies posts. Also Mr. Roe mentioned that a gentleman from EnviroCare might be willing to bore the post holes as volunteer service for the town. Mr. Roe will get more information by tomorrow and share it with Luke Weaver. Matt Weaver asked if the village will be funding this project. Mayor Buehrer replied that we will; we had already planned to have the posts replaced. Matt Weaver said they will contact Councilman Roe. Then Luke will be ready to start the project as soon as all items needed are acquired. They will be in touch with the village. With nothing more to discuss Luke and Matt Weaver left the meeting.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that the village received a check for \$325.93 today from Wood County Juvenile Court, a restitution payment on case number 2017 JA 1004.

Councilman Shanahan reported that website maintenance has turned out to be more difficult than he had expected. He suggested that the village might want to turn the job over to Haley Wilkins, who created the website and has been working with Mr. Shanahan. Haley told Mr. Shanahan that it would take about fifteen minutes for her to do a normal update. Her fee is \$18.75 per quarter hour. She could bill us bimonthly, if that would work for us. Councilman Shanahan made a motion to let Haley Wilkins take over the website maintenance at \$18.75 per quarter hour. Councilwoman Mackey seconded this motion. All were in favor, motion carried. Mr. Shanahan told Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger that he would have Haley contact him to set up invoicing.

ZONING: Councilman Heckerman reported that we need to get Main Street cleaned up by Jake's at the corner of Broad and Main Street. There is junk sitting there and on the sidewalk. Mayor Buehrer said we would have Zoning Inspector Johnson send them a notice about getting things cleaned up.

Councilwoman Mackey reported that numerous people have approached her about the property at 18560 North Street not being mowed. Mr. Mackey called Elaine Dunn about it, who asked for patience, as it is a "work in progress." The owner, Lela Fox, is in a nursing home. Others taking care of the property, including Elaine and the person who mows the lawn, have health issues. Mr. Mackey asked if they would like for the town to have it taken care of and bill them for it. Ms. Dunn turned down the offer and asked again for patience.

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UTILITIES: Councilwoman Mehring reported receiving a question about an unusually high water bill at 17279 Harley Woods Drive, and she asked Utilities Clerk Harnishfeger to look into it. Mr. Harnishfeger commented that there were 50 days included in April's billing, which made bills higher than normal.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Nothing to report.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Councilman Shanahan reported that Arla Mae Crawford asked about the spot where we had the sewer fixed next to the church on Broad Street, if it was up to the village to reseed the small patch of grass there, and, if so, when it would be done. Mayor Buehrer responded that we can take care of it; he will call Brett Palmer to come and seed the spot.

Councilman Benedict asked if Rowe's Tree Service is scheduled to come to town to do any tree trimming. Mayor Buehrer answered that we have not called them for anything yet.

DRAINS and SEWERS: Nothing to report.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Councilwoman Mehring reported having spoken to some little kids at Centennial Park, telling them to not to play with the water fountain; it is for drinking only. She also needed to tell them not to stand on top of the tunnel slide.

Mayor Buehrer reported that we may need to contact another company to do the drainage work at Centennial Park, because Brett Palmer is saying it will probably be a month before he can get to it. Mayor Buehrer said he had hoped to have it done and seeded in a month. The rain is holding everything up. Councilwoman Mackey reported that she has not heard anything from Morlock about repaving the basketball court, but they may not want to go in there until it has dried up or drainage work has been done.

Councilman Shanahan reported that he went to the park meeting last week and got the application for the 2020 park grant. We can apply for \$0 to \$5,000, \$5,000 to \$10,000, and \$10,000-plus. Last year we talked about a walking path as a possible big project. Mayor Buehrer asked if the drainage project at Centennial Park might qualify for grant money. Mr. Shanahan answered that he thought it could. Mayor Buehrer commented that it would make us have to wait possibly until the fall of 2020 to get the drainage done. Mr. Shanahan said we could apply again for grant money to fix the basketball court, but it is a safety hazard and should be fixed as soon as possible. Councilwoman Mackey agreed and commented that the court is used all the time; even by kids from Bowling Green, who have been quiet and not a problem. Mr. Shanahan reported that he also asked the Park District about the status of our 2019 grant money and was told they are checking to see if we had all the paperwork submitted for our previous grant. However, we are permitted to spend the awarded grant money and then reimburse ourselves when we get the actual check. So, Mr. Shanahan had the fiscal officer create a purchase order and email it to the disc golf course company, which was all they needed to release our shipment. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger added that he also called a state auditor and verified that we could spend the awarded grant money before we had the check in hand. They said we could do so, since the park grant appropriation is in the General Fund. Therefore, Mr. Harnishfeger said he mailed a check to Disc Golf Association, Inc. for the disc golf supply order. Mr. Shanahan said it will be shipped to Mid-Wood, to Matt Shanahan's attention.

Councilman Heckerman asked if the boy scouts called about flag poles. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that they did not. Mr. Heckerman said the scouts usually get the flag poles, re-flag them, and then hang them before Memorial Day.

Councilman Shanahan asked why we don't start our meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Buehrer replied that we could; we just need a flag. Members were in agreement to begin opening meetings with the Pledge, with no opposition voiced.

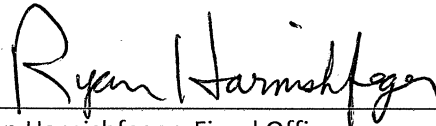
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Councilwoman Mackey asked if we might want to take down the sign at the park that says the park closes at 10:00 p.m. The sign was put up because of problem kids in the past, but kids play there late now and are not causing any problems. She would hate to see the police run them off because of the sign. Mayor Buehrer said he would have no problem with removing the sign. We have lights there for playing at night, and he has not received one complaint about kids playing there late. After a little more discussion, it was decided to leave the sign up for the town's protection, but to let the Sheriff's Office know that they can let kids play beyond 10:00 p.m., as long as they are not causing problems.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Buehrer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Todd Buehrer, Mayor



Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer