

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: May 1, 2023

Council called to order in regular session at 7:01 p.m. with Mayor Matthew Shanahan presiding. Opening ceremony: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led Mayor Shanahan. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, here; Connie Mehring, here; Mark Smith, here; Robert Bergfeld, here; Damon Lee, absent; Lincoln Fox, here. Also present was Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: Sergeant C. Reynolds from the Wood County Sheriff's Office (arrived about 7:20 p.m.). Minutes from the April 17th meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCE and CLAIMS: A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Councilman Bergfeld made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilman Fox seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Copies of the April Bank Reconciliation, Fund Status, Revenue Status, and Appropriation Status Reports were given to the mayor and the Finance Committee to review. A copy of the Staples Credit Card Reconciliation Report was given to President of Council Mark Smith to review.

Mayor Shanahan did a first reading, by title only, of Resolution #960-23, a RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DRAFT AMENDED WOOD COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that on Tuesday, April 25th, he had submitted at the U.S. Treasury Portal the required annual Project and Expenditure Report for the use of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, due by April 30th. There was no officially named project or expenditures yet, so that is the way it was reported.

Copies of the April incident report were given to everyone to review. Sergeant Reynolds arrived about twenty minutes into the meeting and Mayor Shanahan invited members to speak to him about any concerns they may have. Councilman Fox informed Sergeant Reynolds that we had discussed with the two deputies who came to the last meeting concerns about traffic violations of speeding on North Street and Crom Street, before and after school. Sergeant Reynolds asked if we were seeing any stop sign violations. The mayor and members answered that we were. Councilwoman Mackey added that it is not just violations by student drivers, but by parents as well. The mayor pointed out that we have about 25 days of school left. Sergeant Reynolds asked what members thought would be the best place for a deputy to sit. Mayor Shanahan answered that on North Street they could sit in the parking lot. Ms. Mackey added that they could sit in the alley at the west end of the parking lot and not be as obvious. Sergeant Reynolds responded that he would put the word out. The mayor said that he shared the same traffic concerns when he emailed the sheriff's department recently, while inquiring about scheduling usage of the speed-indicating sign. He also commented that in the future we may think about just purchasing permanent speed-indicators that attach to poles. Sergeant Reynolds said they have been moving the mobile signs around about every month to different communities. Mr. Fox asked if we are still thinking about doing a walk-through with the sheriff. The mayor answered that he will need to follow up with the sheriff about a date that will work for that. With nothing more to discuss, Mayor Shanahan thanked Sergeant Reynolds and he left the meeting.

ZONING: Mayor Shanahan asked the fiscal officer if he had received any zoning permit payments from Zoning Inspector Owens for the Kinder shed permit. Mr. Harnishfeger replied that he had not. The mayor said he would follow up with Mr. Owens about that shed permit.

UTILITIES: Mayor Shanahan reported that he sent the street light updates to Utilities Superintendent Johnson after the last meeting, but there has not yet been any information received back about that. The mayor also stated that he had wanted to inquire of Mr. Johnson about the silver utility boxes out by the road in front of four houses in the North Street area. The mayor said that nobody else in the village seems to have those boxes and he was wondering what they were for. The one in front of Tim Smith's

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

house continues to fall apart and Tim would like for it to be removed if possible. The mayor said he would send a picture to Mr. Johnson and ask him about it. If Mr. Johnson doesn't know, he will ask Craig Spoore if he knows what they are. The mayor said he would like to have some feedback to provide to residents about whether or not those boxes are still in use. Members thought they might be for landline phones. Councilman Smith said that he would talk to his contact at the phone company and see what he can find out. Some members commented that switching to T-Mobile for cell phone service cleared up their problems with poor reception in Tontogany.

Utilities Clerk Harnishfeger reported that he prepared water, sewer, and electric disconnection notices for ten delinquent utility accounts, and Mr. Johnson served the notices on Saturday, April 29th. He said he also sent letters and Payment Plan Agreement forms to three of those customers with the highest delinquent amounts, but most people just pay the stated delinquent amount to avoid disconnection.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Councilwoman Mackey mentioned that Mayor Shanahan had notified members of a brush pickup date decided upon, but she said she forgot to get a flyer out, so she would do that. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger asked when that was scheduled, so he could contact Haley to post it on the website. Ms. Mackey answered that it was scheduled for Monday, May 15th. Councilman Fox suggested adding a note about it on the May utility bills, and Mr. Harnishfeger said he would do that.

Councilman Fox asked if we ever heard anything more about Utilities Superintendent Johnson's idea about possibly hooking the Broad Street water customers into the water lines on Main Street and Washington Street, and abandoning the Broad Street water line. Mayor Shanahan answered that he had not heard any update about that yet. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reminded members that Mr. Johnson had intended to run the idea by Feller-Finch Engineer Dave Kuhn to see if he thought it was a feasible solution. Mr. Harnishfeger said he had mentioned it to Craig Spoore when he happened to stop in at the office and Craig thought it would be possible because there are only five taps to deal with. The mayor commented that, if we could do that, we could then go ahead and repave Broad Street without having to worry about a water line underneath it. It would cost something to hook the Broad Street customers into the east-west water lines, but not nearly as much as a whole new replacement water line under Broad Street. Councilman Smith remarked that it would be money well spent.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Councilman Smith asked the fiscal officer if he had received an estimate in the mail from Rowe's Tree Service. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that he had not. Mr. Smith reported that he had contacted Abe Rowe to look at the bad tree on Broad Street and he should be coming out in the near future and will give us an estimate to remove the tree.

DRAINS and SEWERS: Nothing to report.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Councilwoman Mehring asked if we had decided to get rid of the fountain at Centennial Park. Mayor Shanahan responded that his understanding was that we decided that it should be alright for right now, but, once it breaks again, we are done with it. Councilwoman Mackey reminded members that Kellermeier had said that the reason it keeps breaking every year is because the line hasn't been drained before winter. So, that is what needs to be done every fall, and she said she thought Mr. Johnson would know how to do that. Councilman Smith and the mayor agreed that we should have that done every year to keep it from breaking, but if it ever breaks again, we are done fixing it. Members discussed just having no fountain at the park, but Ms. Mackey reasoned that we need to provide a source of water there for people who rent the shelter house for events. After a little more discussion, the mayor concluded that we will speak to Mr. Johnson about the need to drain the fountain each fall.

Councilwoman Mackey reported that the lid on the trash can at the basketball court is broken. She said she intended to talk to Mark at Playground World and see if they carry those. She asked if members

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

were okay with her ordering a new one, if they have them. Members were in agreement with her doing so, with no one voicing opposition. Ms. Mackey added that Playground World is planning to be here this week to install the new basketball goal. She said the anchor has been put in, he did a great job, and he said he would be back this week, weather permitting, to put the goal in.

Ms. Mackey reported that she received word that there is a meeting for the park grant at the Wood County Parks District on Thursday night at 7 p.m. She said she will go to that meeting and she welcomed Councilman Smith and Councilwoman Mehring to come too, if they would like to.

Councilwoman Mackey gave a big thanks to Councilman Smith for redoing our message board sign at Centennial Park. She said it looks great and it saved us a lot of money that it would have cost to buy a new one.

Councilman Fox reported that he saw Josh Heckerman throwing stuff into the mulch area at Mehring Park to get it out of his way so he could mow. He asked if we weren't paying him to remove sticks and stuff, rather than just move it out of his way. Mayor Shanahan asked if we knew he didn't go back afterwards and remove the stuff. The mayor added that, typically, he throws stuff out of his way while he is mowing and then afterwards goes back and picks up; we have never had piles of sticks left after a mowing.

Councilman Bergfeld reported that he had noticed that the grass at the park was not cut level and it looks bad to him. He said it looks like maybe a tire is low on the mower, causing it not to cut level. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if this was just in a spot or all over the park. Mr. Bergfeld answered that it was that way all over the whole park. He suggested that someone call Josh to check into it, because it never looked like that before. Mayor Shanahan responded that we will say something to Josh.

Councilman Fox told members that he had looked over the Draft Amended Wood County Solid Waste Management Plan that Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger had emailed to members to review. He said he had some questions about the plan, including the goal of recycling opportunities to only 80% of the population instead of 100%, doubling up on recycling bins where they don't need to be, and how pricing is done for waste from inside of the county, outside of the county, and waste brought in from out of state. Mr. Fox said it seemed to him that the Solid Waste Management District was expecting every community to ratify their plan by resolution, whether we like it or not. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger pointed out that the letter from Solid Waste Management District that came with their proposed plan stated that they must obtain approval of the Plan Update from various sources, including municipal corporations and townships with a combined population of 60% of the population of Wood County. So, municipalities like Tontogany can vote yes or no on the resolution approving the plan. Councilwoman Mackey suggested that Solid Waste Management District ought to be able to send a representative to explain things and answer questions like TMACOG did recently. Mayor Shanahan added that we could email them and ask for a representative to come to a meeting after everyone has a chance to look over the 260-page plan. Members agreed that this would be a good idea.


Mayor Shanahan asked Councilman Fox if he had talked to his father-in-law about coming out to look at the damaged slide at Mehring Park. Mr. Fox responded that he forgot to ask him, but he will do so. The mayor said he would like for us to figure out what we are going to do with the slide as nicer weather approaches.

Mayor Shanahan told members that we are going to need to buy the brackets for the banners this year. We don't have enough brackets for the six new veteran banners that we are going to order. We will have to figure out where we want to buy brackets from, get a price quote, and get it approved. We need six sets of brackets—two per banner. Ms. Mackey asked if the company from which we get the banners has brackets. The mayor answered that they do not provide brackets. Ms. Mackey asked if they might be able to tell us where we could get brackets. The mayor answered that they are in Findlay and they might be able to suggest a good place to buy brackets; he said he could also ask the mayor of Findlay about it. Councilman Smith asked if we are putting banners up on telephone poles this year. The mayor responded that we are. He also said that he would like to get the banners up when the weather

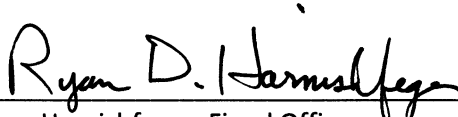
TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

breaks. He said he went to Ace Hardware in Bowling Green, showed them our brackets, and found out that Ace does not have them. He said we could probably order them through places like Menards, Lowes, or Home Depot, but we might have to pay a higher price. The flag place in Toledo has them, but we previously decided that they were too expensive.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Shanahan declared the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.



Matthew Shanahan, Mayor



Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer