

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: June 19, 2023

Council called to order in regular session at 7:03 p.m. with Mayor Matthew Shanahan presiding. Opening ceremony: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mayor Shanahan. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, here; Connie Mehring, absent; Mark Smith, here; Robert Bergfeld, absent; Damon Lee, here; Lincoln Fox, here. Also present was Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Minutes from the June 5th meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCE and CLAIMS: A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Councilman Smith noted that Utilities Superintendent Johnson had pulled a meter. Utilities Clerk Harnishfeger responded that we served a disconnection notice to a customer and they did not make a payment or contact the office to set up a payment plan, so we pulled their electric meter. Councilman Smith made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilman Fox seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Shanahan did a third reading, by title only, of Ordinance #961-23, an ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023. Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Ordinance #961-23. Councilman Lee seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Councilman Fox asked if we had seen the mosquito sprayer yet. Mayor Shanahan answered that they have been in town a couple of times and he was thinking about asking if we needed to add another spray a month. Members didn't think so, but suggested we could think about it next summer.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger read a letter from Staples Business More Account, stating, "We are writing to inform you that your Staples Business More Account Credit Card will be closed on 7/31/2023 as the Citibank, N.A. Card program with Staples will be ending. This decision was not based on any information regarding your credit card account or credit standing. Additionally, the account closure requires no action by you."

Mayor Shanahan reported that Utilities Superintendent Johnson was able to acquire two quotes for the drainage project at Ernest Yeary's location on Tontogany Creek Road. Gearhart came in at \$8,765.00. Palmer came in at \$8,593.20. Not a great difference between the two quotes, Palmer's being a little lower. Mr. Johnson was not able to get a third quote for the project. The mayor told members that the fiscal officer had told him that we do have money appropriated that would cover the cost of a project like this. Councilwoman Mackey asked if this matter was thoroughly checked out to determine that the drainage problem was truly a village issue and not something plugged on Mr. Yeary's property. The mayor and Councilmembers Smith and Fox explained to Ms. Mackey that excavation was done by Gearhart, showing where the pipe was broken during the village's ditch enclosure project. Comparing the two quotes received, Mr. Smith noted that Palmer's quote doesn't say anything about how they intend to go under the road, but it does include asphalt patching, indicating that their process may include tearing up the road. Gearhart's quote mentions directional drilling, which would indicate that they would not tear up the asphalt and have to patch it. Ms. Mackey commented that it would be cheaper, in the long run, if we do not have to repair and reseal the asphalt. Mr. Smith agreed that the less we have to cut into the asphalt, the better off we will be. After a little more discussion, members came to an agreement that it would be best to go with Gearhart, especially because of the boring method they intend to use, and because they are already familiar with the situation, having done preliminary exploratory work to diagnose the problem for Mr. Yeary. Councilman Fox made a motion to accept Gearhart's bid of \$8,765.00 for this project. Councilman Smith seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Mayor Shanahan said he would let Mr. Johnson know that we accepted Gearhart's bid and have him get the job scheduled.

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ZONING: Mayor Shanahan reported that Zoning Inspector Owens turned in a zoning permit fee today for a new fence at Jamin Roe's home at 18735 Wall Street.

Councilman Fox asked if a permit was required for the cement at John Wagener's place at the corner of Broad Street and North Street. The mayor answered that it was not, but he was wondering if the cement people will be coming back to fill in the gap between the cement and the road. He said he would stop and ask Mr. Wagener if they will be filling that in.

UTILITIES: Nothing to report.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Mayor Shanahan asked members if we would want to do something to improve the condition of the little alleyway between Crom Street and Washington Street that goes along by the railroad tracks. It is in rough shape. We typically are asked by the residents who use it to have it filled after the winter; we do plow it and potholes get pretty deep. The mayor said he believes it is technically railroad property, but he asked if members thought it would be worth it to us to make it better for residents' use. He said he had asked the railroad multiple times to pave it and take care of it, but that didn't go over. The mayor asked members, when they are out and about, to drive or walk through there and take a look at it. Councilman Fox asked if it is asphalt or stone. Members replied that it is stone. The mayor added that he thought there was some asphalt there too.

Councilwoman Mackey said she received a text about Paul's Refuse Pickup being taken over and that was the first she had heard about it. Mr. Fox reported that he had found out when his trash was not picked up and he called Paul's about it and his call was automatically connected to Rumpke. He asked them what was going on and they told him the sale was finalized Thursday, and Monday, June 19th, was the first day they were taking over and they would be the provider going forward. Paul's was to send a letter to each customer to inform them. Ms. Mackey wondered how customers would know what Rumpke's charges would be and how customers' prepayments to Paul's would be handled. Mr. Fox said we don't know yet how everything will be worked out, but the good news is that Tontogany residents have options. Rumpke also offers curbside recycling, so it might take some pressure off of our recycling bins. Mayor Shanahan asked Mr. Fox to reach out to Rumpke again and invite them to a meeting, so members could ask them some questions.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Councilman Smith reported that he had spoken with Cody Donaldson. Cody had back surgery, but he intends to be here in the next week or two to walk around and look into the sidewalks we have to do and to give an estimate on some trees. Mr. Smith said Cody was confident about being able to get the projects done. Mayor Shanahan added that the Eagle Scout is wanting to get with Cody about the sign project too. The mayor said he would check again to see if they reached out to Cody about that.

Councilman Smith asked Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger if we got the bill out regarding the tree on Main Street that Abe Rowe cut up for us. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that he has not received the original bill from Abe Rowe yet. Mayor Shanahan asked Mr. Harnishfeger to scan and email that bill to him as soon as he gets it, and he will then attach it to an email to the party who will be paying it. Mr. Smith asked if we know who to send it to. The mayor answered that it is the attorney for the mortgage company and, potentially, we could just have the bill sent directly to him. Mr. Smith said he thought that would probably be a better solution. He said he would get the attorney's address and he would ask Abe Rowe to send the bill directly to him, rather than to our office first. Councilwoman Mackey asked about the grass problem in the backyard at that same Main Street property. The mayor responded that the attorney said he passed on the email that the mayor sent him to the mortgage company, and he preferred that the mayor send all communications through him. The mayor also told members that he will try to get Abe Euler to bring his log splitter to split the large pieces of wood that Mr. Rowe cut up. Councilman Fox noted that Abe Rowe hasn't come yet to give a quote on the tree across from his house.


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Mr. Smith answered that he would remind him of that. Mr. Fox said he was waiting to hear back from a company called Roque, who took down a tree in his backyard.

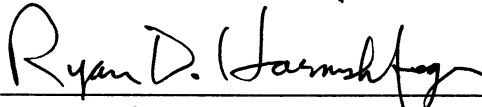
DRAINS and SEWERS: Nothing to report.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Councilman Smith reported that he acquired a quote from Morlock for the sealing and painting of the basketball court. Then he asked for and received a quote that added painting of the pickleball court as well. The quote for everything was \$2,313, including edging any overhanging grass from edges and cracks; power cleaning dirt and debris with compressed air and a blower/power broom and/or wire brooms; applying rubberized hot pour crack filler to any open cracks; applying two generous uniform coats of asphalt sealer, modified with polymer hardener and 3 to 4 pounds of silica sand per gallon for improved surface toughness and enhanced resistance to oils, fuels and grease; and striping of the pickleball court lines and basketball court lines, one in yellow and one in white to differentiate. Mr. Smith commented that all we would need to do is accept Morlock's quote for everything to get put on their schedule; then it would take just two or three days for them to complete the project and we would have everything we want. Mayor Shanahan asked what the quoted price was for just the blacktop sealing. Mr. Smith answered that the sealing alone was \$1,040. The mayor then stated that Stripe It Up's quote for just painting the basketball and pickleball courts in two different colors was \$990. The mayor and members discussed the options of either having Morlock do the whole job in about three days at a little higher price or trying to coordinate sealing and painting with two different companies to save a few dollars. The decision was made to go with a little higher price and have Morlock get the job done quickly, rather than possibly dragging it out for weeks and not have the basketball and pickleball courts available during part of the prime season for their use. Councilman Fox made a motion to accept Morlock's quote of \$2,313 to do the whole job of sealing and painting. Councilman Lee seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. The mayor asked Mr. Smith to let Morlock know that their bid was accepted and we are ready to schedule the work to be done. Councilwoman Mackey asked if Morlock will cordon off the court or if that would be something we would need to do. Mr. Smith answered that Morlock puts up caution tape when they do a job, so people will know to stay off of it.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Shanahan declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Matthew Shanahan, Mayor



Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer