

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: February 5, 2024

Council called to order in regular session at 7:02 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, here; Mark Smith, here; Robert Bergfeld, absent at roll call, but arrived at 7:08 p.m.; Damon Lee, absent; Lincoln Fox, here. Also present were Utilities Superintendent/Meter Reader Chad Johnson, Zoning Inspector Brian Owens, and Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: Wood County Sheriff's Deputy Shaffer. Minutes from the January 16th meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCE and CLAIMS: Councilman Fox suggested that approval of the current invoices be postponed until Councilman Bergfeld should arrive, so emergency legislation could be passed to increase appropriations to cover the \$12,678.05 street light bill from Municipal Utilities. Members agreed with that suggestion.

Mayor Shanahan reported that we received an invitation from the Northwest Ohio Mayors and Managers Association to a free networking event on February 26th. The event will take place at Biaggi's Italian Restaurante, Levis Commons, 1320 Levis Commons Blvd., Perrysburg, OH 43551 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and soda, coffee and tea will be provided; alcoholic beverages may be purchased. The mayor said he intends to go and he asked any members who also wanted to attend to let Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger know in time to have the names of attendees submitted by February 19th.

Mayor Shanahan did a second reading, by title only, of Resolution #967-24, a RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF VILLAGE PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION.

Mayor Shanahan did a second reading, by title only, of Ordinance #968-24, AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024. He commented that this ordinance is for the \$40,174.64 of COVID money.

Mayor Shanahan did a first reading, by title only, of Ordinance #969-24, AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. He commented that this ordinance is to add \$10,000 more to our street light fund appropriations for 2024, increasing the original amount of \$8,000 to \$18,000. Councilman Smith made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency for Ordinance #969-24. Councilman Bergfeld seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Councilwoman Mehring made a motion to adopt Ordinance #969-24. Councilman Smith seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Councilwoman Mehring asked if the bill for Sheriff's services had increased over last year. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger responded that it had, due to a wage increase for 2024. Mr. Harnishfeger also pointed out that the invoice list contained a bill for \$8,765 from Gearhart Plumbing & Heating, Inc., for drainage repair and boring under Tontogany Creek Road to fix the drainage problem at Earnest Yeary's home. He said the work was approved and done last year and he had requested billing before the end of 2023, but he just received the bill a few days ago. Councilman Fox made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilwoman Mackey seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Shanahan did a first reading, by title only, of Ordinance #970-24, AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024. The mayor commented that this ordinance is to appropriate the \$986 Suburban Gas Company grant in the general fund for use on mosquito spraying or tree maintenance.

Mayor Shanahan did a first reading, by title only, of Ordinance #971-24, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND ENACTING AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING'S OHIO BASIC CODE, 2024 EDITION, AS THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF TONTOGANY, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilman Smith made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

emergency for Ordinance #971-24. Councilman Bergfeld seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Councilman Bergfeld made a motion to adopt Ordinance #971-24. Councilwoman Mackey seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Copies of the January Incident Report were provided to all for review. Mayor Shanahan asked if members had any questions or concerns for the deputy. There were none. The mayor asked Deputy Shaffer if he had anything to report to members. He did not. With nothing to discuss, the mayor thanked the deputy and he left the meeting.

Mayor Shanahan pointed out that everyone had a copy of our current committees. He asked if everyone wanted to stay on their current committees or if anyone wanted to change. Everyone was good with their current committee positions, so the mayor said we will let them remain as is for now. He asked everyone to check their contact information on the list and make sure it was still correct; he asked for any changes to be sent to Councilwoman Mackey so she could update the list. The mayor also reminded members that there was a motion at the last meeting to keep Mark Smith as Council President.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that he received a quote from TruGreen to repeat the late spring and early fall lawn treatments again this year that they did for us last year. The price in 2023 was \$710.75 per treatment. The price for 2024 is \$739.18 per treatment. He asked members if they wanted him to accept the quote and have TruGreen schedule 2024 treatments at the new price. Members voiced their approval of accepting the quote, with no one voicing opposition. Councilwoman Mackey remarked that the treatments made a significant difference at Centennial Park.

ZONING: Zoning Inspector Owens reported that someone is interested in the last piece of property on Tontogany Creek Road, north of Scott Road. He commented that where they want to place their house is kind of odd, so he is consulting with Solicitor Skaff to make sure the Village is doing everything properly on our end.

UTILITIES: Utilities Superintendent Johnson reported that he had to call Palmer in to fix a broken valve for the Mid-Wood Elevator which was causing problems with their water lines. Palmer fixed the valve in the meter pit.

Mayor Shanahan asked for an update on the lead survey requirement. Mr. Johnson said he wasn't sure but we may get some of the grant money available for that. It hasn't been verified yet how many meter pits we have to do in Tontogany. Councilman Smith asked if we had made any progress yet on sending a letter to residents to inform them about the lead survey and seeking their cooperation. Mr. Johnson replied that that has not been done yet. He also commented that half of the town has new water lines, so only the customer side will need to be verified for those connections.

Mr. Johnson asked if members had ever considered putting in a few street lights where the new properties are located on Tontogany Creek Road north of Scott Road. Mayor Shanahan noted that the last street light there is at Scott Road and then there are none north of that where the three new homes are located in the annexed property. Councilman Smith asked if the residents there are interested in having a light or two put in. Mr. Johnson pointed out the extra value of adding some lights there because of the presence of the school. The mayor stated that we will have to go down there and take a look. Councilwoman Mackey commented that this was a good suggestion. The mayor reported that there is a light out at Tontogany Creek Road and Kellogg Road, although he wasn't sure if it was a Tontogany light or a township light. Mr. Johnson commented that he had told Bowling Green that we were wanting to upgrade to LED street lights when repairs were needed, but he did not tell them we wanted all of the street lights changed to LED right away. However, they did change them all to LED, so now we don't have to worry about it. Ms. Mackey commented that it was actually a blessing in disguise. Mayor Shanahan added that they did not charge us for labor, but only for the new lights. Councilman Smith did a little quick math and told members that we paid \$233 and change for each LED fixture in the

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

hall and Bowling Green only charged us \$171 for each LED street light, and nothing for labor and equipment, so, it was a good deal for the town. Everyone agreed.

Councilman Smith asked what we need to do for the backflow prevention project. Mr. Johnson answered that they have been told what needs to be done and that it has to be done this calendar year. The mayor added that our responsibility was to come up with the funding to pay for the project, which we have done. Mr. Johnson commented that it is supposed to be bid out by April.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Councilwoman Mehring reported that there is a big hole on Washington Street by the railroad tracks, close to the crossing. Members commented that that might be the railroad's responsibility. Councilwoman Mackey suggested that we could get some cold patch put in there. The mayor agreed that we can take a look at it and get some cold patch in there if needed.


SIDEWALKS and TREES: Nothing to report.

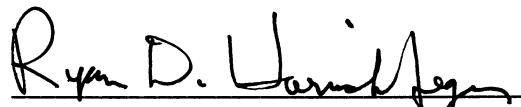
DRAINS and SEWERS: Nothing to report.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Councilwoman Mackey asked if Mayor Shanahan had attended the Eagle Scout ceremony. The mayor answered that he did attend the ceremony and he told the Scouts that we had a little token of our congratulations on its way and we would get it to them. He added that Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger had sent payment of \$120 for 30 four-inch coasters, designed with Tontogany, Ohio 1875 on them and eagle feathers in the middle. They were purchased from Third Generation Printing, LLC in Weston, Ohio.

Mayor Shanahan reported that Councilwoman Mackey, Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger and he met with and interviewed the applicant for the village administrator position. He then asked Ms. Mackey to comment on that. She stated that we were all pleased and impressed. He seems to be extremely qualified for the job and eager to jump in, once he is cleared to do so. The mayor added that he followed up with him today and he is still waiting for one more clearance, because he works for the Lucas County Commissioners and wants to be sure there is no conflict of interest. The mayor went on to say that he has quite a bit of knowledge about utilities, as well as municipal governance and Ohio Revised Code. He told members that we also spoke to him about zoning matters and the need for an updated zoning map and zoning code, and he was eager to be a part of that process to help us get some things reworded and up to date. Ms. Mackey added that he has been a member of the Springfield Township zoning board since 2020. He and his family recently moved to Green Road, just south of 582. They have young children and are eager to get involved in Otsego and in the community. We asked him about his availability, since he works full time. He told us his hours can be flexible. He might not always be able to come in an emergency but, overall, he should be able to be flexible enough to put in the hours that are needed for Tontogany. Councilman Fox questioned how he would make his full-time job work with us. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger answered that he said he would usually work his full-time job until 3 p.m. and then be free to work on Tontogany matters, with some flexibility during the day as well. The mayor added that he also told us that he would have the flexibility during his full-time job hours to use his phone and email to communicate with Tontogany officials and deal with village matters. The mayor told members he would keep them posted on the applicant's clearance issues.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Shanahan declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


Matthew Shanahan, Mayor


Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer