

Bethel Village Council July 14, 2008

Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers in the Bethel Municipal Building on Monday, July 14th, 2008 at 6:30 pm with Mayor John Swarthout presiding.

The meeting was video taped and will be aired on cable television.

Mr. Cherry delivered the invocation followed by Mayor Swarthout leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Upon roll call, the following were counted as present: Council Members Alan Ausman, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, James Dick. Also present: Village Administrator Travis Dotson, Fiscal Officer Angel Burton and Solicitor George Leicht. Council Members Donna Gunn and Joe Houlihan were absent.

A motion to approve the minutes from June 23rd, 2008, with name clarifications, was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. All ye.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nil

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Swarthout

Mayor Swarthout acknowledged the Bethel Church of Christ's summer mission project. The church chose to stay in town, and performed various community projects, including repair of resident homes and park clean-up.

A request has been received from the Bethel-Tate PTO for a Burke Trust donation to the Tiger Tools for Schools program. The program provides various school supplies to local students. In the past, Village Council has requested \$2000 from the Burke Trust Commission for the program.

A motion to request \$2000 from the Burke Trust Commission for the Tiger Tools for Schools program was made by Mr. Ausman. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. All ye.

Village Administrator

The Village online auction site will be villageofbethelauctions.com and will be viewable August 1 through 14.

Duke Energy will be repairing an asphalt walking path that was damaged during the winter storms.

The public works employees are completing the tree clean-up at the park.

Mr. Dotson also recognized the projects done by the Bethel Church of Christ, relaying the story of a foster child living with a family in town. The little boy is excited for school to start, stating the children on the bus won't pick on him about his house since the church replaced the siding.

The Village's 2008 Annual Newsletter, with the required water quality report, will be mailed July 15, 2008.

Fiscal Officer:

Ms. Burton has begun compiling a monthly financial report for Council, with a reconciled bank statement and fund summary. She would like Council to approve the reports by motion, with the Mayor signing-off on the reports after approval.

The Village's 2009 Tax Budget is complete, and needs to be approved this evening. Ms. Burton explained the document is "fill-in-the-blank", with columns for the past 2 years final numbers (submitted to the state in the Village's annual financial report). There is a column for this year's anticipated receipts and appropriations (echo the figures listed in the financial report) and next year's projected receipts and expenses. Ms. Burton noted she carried over this year's appropriations to next year's expenses, with a 10% cushion added to the benefits for health insurance premium increases. The budget is used to compile the Village's initial certificate of resources. She noted nothing in the document is set in stone, and the certificate is updated to reflect the Village's actual ending balances.

Solicitor Leicht:

The right-of-way for a 6' waterline that is being installed by 133 has been questioned. It was made clear that the Village is not installing the waterline. The Village does need to insure a description was provided and the proper easements were obtained for the waterline.

Mr. Leicht addressed the possibility of the Village Police Department contracting with a third-party company to investigate auto accidents and subsequently bill the at-fault insurance company. He is familiar with a similar practice done by EMS and fire departments. Chief Wallace has been checking into the option and Mr. Leicht suggested Lt. Planck perform a cost study to weigh the benefits.

Police Department:

Lt. Planck addressed Council on behalf of the police department.

He commended Ofc Woodruff for her recent completion of an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice through the University of Cincinnati.

The National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal parking lot. The event will feature food, entertainment, children's activities and participation from other local departments. The Clermont County Convention Bureau donated \$600 to the event.

The 2008 Clermont County Law Enforcement Golf Outing will be September 22, 2008 at the Legendary Run Golf Course. The proceeds from the event benefit DARE and other school programs.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Hutchinson spoke on behalf of the Finance committee. The next finance meeting will be Monday, August 11th, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

A motion to approve the June Financial Report was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. All yea.

A motion to approve the 2009 Tax Budget for submittal to Clermont County was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. All yea.

Public Works:

Mr. Cherry spoke on behalf of the Public Works Committee. The next meeting will be July 28th, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

Safety Committee:

Mr. Cherry spoke on behalf of Mr. Houlihan, for the Safety Committee.

Chief Wallace presented a visual graph indicating the police department's callouts and reporting. The graph indicated the department has become more proactive in policing and

safety, notably since Chief Wallace's command of the department. Mr. Cherry found the information to be a statement of Chief Wallace's management and the police officers' performance.

It was mentioned that a similar graph, indicating the department's mutual aid numbers, would be informative.

Burke Trust Committee:

Nil

Planning Commission:

Mr. Dick spoke on behalf of the Planning Commission. The next planning meeting is Thursday, August 7th at 6:00 p.m. at the municipal building.

Call of Members:

Mr. Ausman: Nil

Mr. Hutchinson: The additional job descriptions have been prepared, and available for review and mark-up by the other committee members. He hopes to have the final descriptions by the next meeting of Council.

Mr. Cherry: Nil

Mr. Dick: Nil

Public Input:

Nil

Legislation:

ORDINANCE 1591 CHANGING THE NAME OF CHARITY WAY, tabled. Mr. Ausman was given the suggestion of "Blessed Way".

ORDINANCE 1593 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS, tabled. Mr. Leicht will be putting the corrections in legislative form for the next Council meeting.

ORDINANCE 1594 AMENDING 2008 APPROPRIATIONS, 1st reading

Payment of Bills:

A motion approving the payment of the presented expenses and bills was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Mr. Dick. All yea. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. All yea. 7:05 p.m.

Mayor John Swarthout

Angel Burton, Fiscal Officer