

## **Bethel Village Council**

### **April 12, 2010**

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, April 12, 2010, with Mayor James T. Dick presiding.

Mr. Cherry delivered the invocation, followed by Mayor Dick leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Upon roll call, the following members were counted as present: Council Members Priscilla Johnson, Janice Ireton, Donna Gunn, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, Mary Daugherty; Fiscal Officer Angel Burton and Village Administrator Travis Dotson.

Mayor Dick thanked Bethel Building and Loan for sponsoring this year's Council meeting videos.

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2010 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Johnson. All ye.

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 29, 2010 special meeting, as written, was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. 5 yeas; Ms. Ireton abstained.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Jeff Vontz spoke to Council on behalf of the Bethel Booster Association. The group is requesting renewal of the annual lease agreement on fields 1 and 2, as well as the concession stand. The Village's insurance representative has recommended a few changes to the contract, that have been documented and will be signed by Mr. Vontz if Council approves renewal.

A motion to renew the Bethel Booster's lease of Fields 1 and 2, and the Concession Stand, fee free, for March 1, 2010 through November 15, 2010 was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All ye.

Council discussed the Booster's proposed modification of the concession stand building, to include a heavy duty door and blockage of the windows, for added security of their equipment. The group's Gator was stolen out of the building in 2009. The Boosters will cover the project cost. The Public Works Committee will review the proposal at their next meeting.

Mr. Frank Manning addressed Council, as caretaker of the Grant Memorial Building. The building is in need of plaster repair and interior paint. Mr. Manning had some difficulty in getting proposals, due to the scarce number of plaster repair persons. He presented Council with a proposal in the amount of \$1150 for the plaster repair work, and a proposal in the amount of \$1875 for interior paint. The Burke Trust Commission may consider funding these improvements, if Council makes the request.

Mr. Cherry acknowledged the need for the repairs, and the Public Works committee will review the proposals at the next committee meeting.

#### **ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Mayor James T. Dick**

Mayor's Court collected \$9050.90 in March, 2010, with \$6633.90 going to the Village, \$2142 going to the State and \$275 in other revenues.

The Bethel Community Easter Egg Hunt, held at Burke Park on March 27, 2010 had a good turnout. Around 300 children found 3000 eggs. Other entertainment included the Easter Bunny, a magic show and crafts. Those organizing the event hope to do it again next year.

### **Village Administrator, Travis Dotson**

Ms. Johnson called in a water line break at Plane and Union on Saturday, with the repairs finished today. It was a small leak, and the perpendicular gas line did not pose any problems. The water pressure was maintained, and there was no need for a boil advisory.

Mr. Dotson reminded everyone of this Saturday's events, including the Lions Club Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., the Clean and Green pickup at 8:00 a.m., the Grant Vocational green house and the Community Appreciation Dinner beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works is getting the park ready for upcoming events, with mulch and flowers. Gutters will also be cleaned and painted.

### **Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton**

Ms. Burton copied Council on a liquor permit application filed by Cox Bethel IGA. Council does not request a hearing on the application.

The Village's \$50K blanket bond premium is due. If it is determined the Village is "over-insured," the policy may be canceled, and a refund of premium will be given.

A motion to renew the Village's \$50K Blanket Bond for 3 years for \$1040, contingent on review by the liability insurance representative, was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Ms. Daugherty. All yea. (State Auto Insurance, check 20792)

### **Solicitor George Leicht**

Absent

### **Police Chief Mark Planck**

The last BAMFest meeting before the May 8<sup>th</sup> event is scheduled for Friday, April 23, 2010.

### **Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn**

A motion to reallocate appropriations in the following amounts: \$750 from the Water Billing Supply line to the Water Billing Contractual line, \$750 from the Electric Billing Supply line to the Electric Contractual line, and \$5000 from the MVL Capital Improvement line to the MVL Supply line was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Ireton. All yea.

A motion changing the Village's health insurance plan to the Humana National POS, with a \$10/45/70/25% prescription plan and a total monthly premium of \$6734.08, retroactive to April 1, 2010, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. All yea.

The change in Humana plans will change nothing from the employee's perspective. The Village's Schedule of Benefits, approved 06/01/2008 by Council, remains unchanged at the time, though a comprehensive review of benefits is forthcoming.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

### **Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry**

The next Public Works Committee meeting is Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. The committee will be reviewing the Burke Park paving project.

### **Safety Committee, Chairperson Gary Hutchinson**

There was no April Safety Committee meeting, due to the lack of a quorum.

### **Personnel Committee, Chairperson Mary Daugherty**

The Personnel Committee will meet Monday, May 3, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Daugherty is the chair person, and Ms. Gunn and Ms. Johnson are the other committee members.

### **Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton**

When Ms. Ireton toured the Grant Memorial building with Mr. Manning, they discussed the replacement of the old wooden bench seats. She will present Council with estimates on new folding chairs, for a Burke Trust funding request.

#### **Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson**

Nil.

#### **CALL OF MEMBERS**

Priscilla Johnson: Would like to see people get out for the Clean-up, Paint-up, Fix-up.

Janice Ireton: Ditto, and mentioned she's looking forward to BAMFest. She encouraged residents to make Bethel what they want it to be.

Donna Gunn: Echoed Ms. Ireton's sentiments.

Gary Hutchinson: Nil.

Tim Cherry: Nil.

Mary Daugherty: Nil.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Bill Brown addressed Council regarding the utility deposit required of property owners. He has had his business in Bethel for years, and now that he's moving to a new location, he's required to put down a \$400 deposit. The deposit is higher than any other municipality, and it is not applied to his account until his service is discontinued. He encouraged Council to reconsider the policy for property owners, because tenants and "gypsies" are the problem with unpaid utilities. The deposits are tracked in a separate Village fund, however the cash is deposited in the same account as all the other Village monies, therefore drawing no interest to credit to his account. Mr. Dotson noted Mr. Brown's account has been grandfathered for over 20 years.

Mr. Brown asked for clarification on the Burke Trust request for \$1500 (community survey) and stated business owners are not in favor of trees being planted in front of their stores.

Mr. Brown stated his dismay at the lack of progress being made in Bethel, while other local villages are improving. No public official has ever stopped by his office. He questioned where the grants are and asked who's encouraging business development.

Ms. Johnson expressed the same frustrations, thus the reason why she's now on Council. Ms. Johnson was involved with the Business Association for 9 years, and also the Garden Club. She has discussed establishing a Civic Association, and believes this Council is willing to work to get Bethel back on track.

#### **LEGISLATION**

##### **RESOLUTION 883 SPECIFYING THE SALARY FOR THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, 3rd Reading**

The annual salary is recommended by Finance, and the resolution is a bookkeeping measure, recommended by the State Auditor's office, to clearly state employee wages.

A motion to strike the \$4800 annual zoning administrator salary, and set the wages at \$200/month through the remainder of the year, was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Motion died due to lack of a second.

A motion to adopt RES 883 Specifying the Zoning Administrator's Salary, as written, was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. By roll: Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Gunn "yea",

Ms. Johnson – abstain, Ms. Ireton “nay”, Mr. Hutchinson “nay”, Ms. Daugherty “nay”.  
Motion failed.

Ms. Burton asked for clarification on how Mr. Dunn is to be paid, and at what rate. Mayor Dick recommended Mr. Dunn’s \$400/mos wages be included in the list of bills, presented to Council for approval. When Council approves the bills to be paid, they are also agreeing to the wages that are paid.

#### **RESOLUTION 884 ESTABLISHING A BETHEL WALK PATH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND**

A motion to waive the 3 readings of RES 884 Establishing the Walk Path fund was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. By roll: Ms. Ireton “yea”, Mr. Hutchinson “yea”, Ms. Johnson “nay”, Ms. Gunn “nay”, Mr. Cherry “nay”, Ms. Daugherty “nay.” Motion failed. Stands as first reading.

#### **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses (checks 20741-20792) was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All yea.

#### **MARCH EXPENSES**

A motion to approve the March, 2010 expenses, as presented (checks 20673-20740, in addition to payroll and direct charges), was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Ireton. All yea.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Ms. Johnson. All yea.  
7:35 p.m.

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James T. Dick, Mayor

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Angelina Burton, Fiscal Officer