

Bethel Village Council February 23, 2012

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., with Mayor Ausman presiding.

Mr. Hembree delivered the invocation, followed by Mayor Ausman 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, Lucy Shepherd, Jeremiah Hembree, Amy Planck, Village Administrator Travis Dotson, Fiscal Officer Bill Gilpin and Village Solicitor Julia Carney.

Also in attendance were John Seney of the Bethel Journal, Art Hunter of the Clermont Sun, Gary Hutchinson and Greg Schuler.

Ms. Ireton made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2012 meeting, as amended, seconded by Mr. Hembree. By roll:

Ms. Johnson "yea"	Ms. Ireton "yea"	Ms. Gunn "abstain"	
Ms. Shepherd "yea"	Mr. Hembree "yea"	Ms. Planck "yea"	Motion Carried

Ms. Gunn made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2012 finance committee meeting, seconded by Ms. Ireton. By roll:

Ms. Johnson "yea"	Ms. Ireton "yea"	Ms. Gunn "yea"	Motion Carried
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COMMUNICATIONS; Nil

REPORTS

Mayor Alan J. Ausman;

McDonalds re-grand opening is February 29 at 9:00 am

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

Working on hiring process for new employees; have interviewed several good candidates
Will have recommendations to Mayor Ausman soon; need to schedule a special council meeting for next week, should be ready by next Tuesday.

After discussion it was the consensus of council to hold the special meeting on February 28, 2012 at 6:00 pm

Fiscal Officer, Bill Gilpin;

The local government official's conference is being held March 8 and 9 in Columbus, Ohio; information handed out in case any council members want to attend; need a motion to allow Bill Gilpin to attend and be reimbursed for expenses.

The state auditor's office will be removing the special passcode for negative fund balances from the computer sometime tomorrow. From now on we will not have the ability to expend money from a fund that has a negative balance.

Solicitor Julia Carney

All elected public officials are required to attend public records training sometime during their term in office; the training will be available in Milford later in the year.

Police Chief Mark Planck; absent

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The committee met twice in February.

The committee discussed changing some of the administrative functions of the fiscal office.

It was approved to allow bills to be paid on a daily basis and to approve appropriations at the summary level rather than by each individual line item. This will allow a bit of flexibility in dealing with appropriations without having to amend them by ordinance every time there is a need to change them.

We are still waiting for the decision from the state auditor whether or not the village will be required to carry the finances of the Burke Trust on the village books or not.

The review on accounting methods is still in progress.

The committee met on February 22 and discussed hiring a class A journeyman lineman. The cost comparison of payroll and training expense was reviewed in detail. The committee approved the village administrator to pursue hiring a class A journeyman lineman.

The village’s share of the cost for Bill Gilpin to attend the local government officials conference will be approximately \$157.

Ms. Gunn made a motion to approve Bill Gilpin attending the LGOC conference in Columbus, OH, from March 7 through 9, at a cost not to exceed \$200.00, seconded by Ms. Shepherd. By roll:

Ms. Johnson “yea” Ms. Ireton “yea” Ms. Gunn “yea”
Ms. Shepherd “yea” Mr. Hembree “yea” Ms. Planck “yea” Motion Carried

Next meeting is March 5 at 5:00 pm.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Jeremiah Hembree;

Next meeting is March 5 at 6:30 pm

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Amy Planck; Nothing to report

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton; Nothing to report

Planning Commission, Amy Planck; Nothing to report

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: There is a new coffee shop in the front of Faith Chapel

Janice Ireton: Nil

Donna Gunn: Nil

Lucy Shepherd: Please support your local businesses

Jeremiah Hembree: Is it going to be possible to have a council meeting on March 8 if any council members attend the LGOC? Travis Dotson stated that we can reschedule or skip the meeting in necessary.

The Lenten season fish fries are now going on; please support them

There is a growing need for foster parents in the Bethel area; we need to take care of our kids

Amy Planck: Nil.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

LEGISLATION: None

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Ms. Gunn asked about a tow bill reimbursement. Bill Gilpin explained that it was due to an error in the court system that indicated a person did not have driving privileges when they actually did. Chief Planck authorized the reimbursement.

Ms. Planck asked about the tuition payments. Bill Gilpin explained that the scholarship payments are made after current grades are supplied, and is ongoing throughout the year.

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses totaling \$177,359.78 was made by Mr. Hembree. Seconded by Ms. Ireton; All yea.

Meeting on motion adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Alan J. Ausman, Mayor

Bill Gilpin, Fiscal Officer