

Bethel Village Council March 9, 2009

Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers in the Bethel Municipal Building on Monday, March 9th, 2009 with Mayor John Swarthout presiding.

The meeting was video taped, to be aired on cable television.

Mayor Swarthout called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Ausman 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, Joe Houlihan, Donna Gunn, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, James Dick. Also present: Village Administrator Travis Dotson, Fiscal Officer Angel Burton, Solicitor Leicht.

A motion to approve the minutes from February 23rd, 2009, as corrected, was made by Mr. Houlihan. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All ye.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nil

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Swarthout

The Village of Bethel 2009 yard sale dates will be May 15-17, July 17-19 and September 18-20.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

The utility department has received many calls regarding the past period's utility bill. The bills seemed unusually high, due to the change in meter reading days, because of inclement weather. (Meters were read early the month before, then late the next month) The cold temperatures, resulting in increased usage, also impacted the amounts.

Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton

Nil.

Solicitor, George Leicht

Requests an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation.

Police Chief Planck

Nil.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The committee met this evening, before Council. The committee reviewed the monthly finance report, and discussed various items related to or impacting the Village's finances, including delinquent utility bills and equipment replacement. The committee also discussed the appropriation amendment before Council.

The Auditor of State's Local Government Officials Conference in April provides an opportunity for Ms. Burton to fulfill her continuing education requirement, as well as her sunshine law training obligation. Both are required by the State of Ohio.

A motion to approve Ms. Burton's AOS conference attendance, including the conference fee, hotel expense and mileage reimbursement, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. All ye.

The next Finance committee meeting will be Monday, April 13, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works, Chairperson Tim Cherry

The next Public Works committee meeting will be Monday, March 23, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Joe Houlihan

The Safety Committee has approved the promotion of 2 auxiliary officers to part-time. The issue is now before the Finance committee.

The next Safety Committee meeting will be Monday, April 6, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The committee met on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 and discussed the final revisions to the employee handbook. The document should be ready by the first of April.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is pending.

Burke Trust Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

Nil.

Planning Commission, Councilperson James Dick

Nil.

Call of Members:

Mr. Ausman: Nil.

Mr. Houlihan: Nil.

Ms. Gunn: This week marks Mr. Dotson's 1 year anniversary as the Village's Administrator. Ms. Gunn thanked Travis for stepping in and doing a good job.

Mentioned the skate park is keeping the kids away from the post office, the funeral home and various other businesses. She has noticed trash around the park, and reminded the kids to keep the area picked up.

Mr. Hutchinson: Nil.

Mr. Cherry: Believes the skate park will be even more appealing once all the landscaping is complete.

Mr. Dick: Lives close to the skate park and echoes other member's observations.

Public Input:

Nil.

Legislation:

ORDINANCE 1620 GRANTING CONSENT TO ODOT TO RESURFACE A PORTION OF SR 133 IN THE VILLAGE OF BETHEL FROM THE SOUTHERN CORPORATION LIMIT (SLM 12.45) TO THE NORTHERN CORPORATION LIMIT (SLM 13.85) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the 3 readings of ORD 1620 Granting Consent to ODOT To Resurface a Portion of SR 133 and Declaring an Emergency was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Mr. Cherry. By roll: Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea", Mr. Ausman "yea", Mr. Houlihan "yea", Ms. Gunn "yea", Mr. Dick "yea". Motion carried.

A motion to adopt ORD 1620 Granting Consent to ODOT To Resurface a Portion of SR 133 and Declaring an Emergency was made by Mr. Houlihan. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. By roll: Mr.

Houlihan “yea”, Ms. Gunn “yea”, Mr. Ausman “yea”, Mr. Hutchinson “yea”, Mr. Cherry “yea”, Mr. Dick “yea”. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 1621 AMENDING 2009 APPROPRIATIONS, 1st Reading

Payment of Bills:

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

A motion to enter an executive session to discuss pending litigation was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. By roll: Ms. Gunn “yea”, Mr. Ausman “yea”, Mr. Houlihan “yea”, Mr. Hutchinson “yea”, Mr. Cherry “yea”, Mr. Dick “yea”. 6:55 p.m.

A motion to enter regular session was made by Mr. Houlihan. Seconded by Mr. Ausman. By Roll: Mr. Houlihan “yea”, Mr. Ausman “yea”, Ms. Gunn “yea”, Mr. Hutchinson “yea”, Mr. Cherry “yea”, Mr. Dick “yea”. 7:07 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All yea. 7:08 p.m.

Mayor John Swarthout

Angel Burton, Fiscal Officer