

Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mayor Bob Gale called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Robert Martin Sr. present, Dr. Michael Ross present, Randy Spence present, Gael Damron present, Jason Mattern present, Bob Merriman present.

Officials: Mayor Bob Gale present, Solicitor Christopher D. Becker present, Fiscal Officer Denise Geanangel present, Administrator Walt Ziembra present.

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Minutes

Motion by Robert Martin, second by Jason Mattern to approve the minutes for February 20, 2020 Meeting.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Persons Appearing Before Council

Bob Stanko a candidate for Jefferson County recorder introduced himself and asked for support in the upcoming election.

Steve Vukelic a candidate for Jefferson County Commissioner introduce himself and asked for support in the upcoming election.

Robert Laukert said the Steel Valley Transit Authority has purchased two new buses and will be running the end of March. He reported a 55% increase in riders in Wintersville from one year ago. Union negotiations are ongoing. The BHJ has appointed Robert Laukert as the technical advisory committee chairman. Replacement of phones, computers and software is taking place. The Steubenville area is looking into getting a port authority. March 10, 2020 @ 10:30 AM at the Millsop Community Center a meeting is scheduled to accept nominations for consideration on the sitting on this board.

Chief Art Fowler introduced recently hired Auxiliary Patrolman Dominick Rogers.

Ordinance and/or Resolution

Ordinance 2020-01: An Ordinance declaring that a 2011 Ford Flex is no longer needed and authorizing the sale to the Highest and Best Bidder was read for the third time.

Motion by Robert Martin, Second by Jason Mattern to approve Ordinance 2020-01.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance 2020-02: An Ordinance accepting the 2020 Fiscal Year permanent appropriations was read for the 1st time.

Motion by Robert Martin, second by Bob Merriman to suspend the rules as an emergency read.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance 2020-02: An Ordinance accepting the 2020 Fiscal Year permanent appropriations was read for the 2nd and 3rd time.

Motion by Jason Mattern. Second by Dr. Ross to approve Ordinance 2020-02.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Reports & Announcements

Mayor read the Police reports, old fines, and code enforcement officers' reports.

The new police cruiser has been ordered and will be in the beginning of May 2020.

Motion by Robert Martin, second by Dr. Ross to approve \$15.00 a day for the Code Enforcement Officer for gasoline and use of his personal vehicle.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

The Regional Tax Authority will be hosting a Taxpayer Assistance Event on March 24, 2020 from 9 AM to 5 PM at the Wintersville Municipal Building 3rd floor to assist with RITA municipal income tax return preparation. This event is open to surrounding areas to include: Amsterdam, Bloomingdale, Empire, Mingo Jct., Smithfield, Steubenville, Stratton and Toronto.

Mayor asked for prayers for the family of the 2 year old child that passed away this week in the Village. He thanked the police department and said counseling is being offers through Coleman Professionals.

Administrator's Report

Sealed bids will be received for the Phase 5 Sanitary Sewer Project until 10 AM on March 25, 2020 where said bids will publicly opened on that date.

Columbia Gas will be holding a public meeting on March 12, 2020 at 6:00 PM at the Village Building to answer questions pertaining to the gas line replacement project.

New Business

Jason Mattern reported the Ordinance Committee, Dr. Ross, Gael Damron and himself met to review the parking ordinance, uniform allowance and auxiliary patrolman hiring process. Jason Mattern reported on behalf of the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission that the CDBG Block Grant is upcoming and has scheduled a meeting for March 19, 2020. A 401 information meeting to be scheduled in March and will be held in Hopedale.

Jason Mattern reminded again of the upcoming 2020 Census and that \$675 billion dollars is available and stressed the importance of everyone being counted. He congratulated Ellie Patera of the Indian Creek girl's wrestling team and Coach Pendleton for a tremendous year. Also the Boy's OVAC 5A season was praised.

Gael Damron thanked the candidates that addressed council this evening. She also relayed to Robert Laukert that she felt the monies being used by the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission to do studies of the roads would be better spent repairing the roads.

Robert Martin wants to bring in the Indian creek teams to Council for recognition. Mayor Gale agreed but did request he talk with the athletic director as to not to miss anyone.

Unfinished Business

None.

Motion by Dr. Ross second by Jason Mattern to pay bill as fund become available.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Robert Martin, second by Bob Merriman to adjourn until the next council meeting on March 19, 2020.

Vote: Robert Martin yea, Dr. Michael Ross yea, Randy Spence yea, Gael Damron yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Disclaimer: These are a draft of the minutes and not deemed official until approved by Council.

Denise Geanangel
Fiscal Officer

Robert Gale
Mayor