Final Council May 23, 2022

Present for this regular meeting of the Village of West Liberty Council was Mayor McKelvey, Mr. Spriggs, Mrs. Zerkle, Mrs. Hostetler, Mrs. Griffith, Ms. Kauffman, Mr. Hoffman, Chief Oelker and Clerk Boyd. Absent: None. Guests: Jeff Stillings, Other guests from media was April King of WPKO and Sharon Kopf from Bellefontaine Examiner.

Meeting was opened with Pledge of Allegiance and Lord’s Prayer.

Chief Oelker was here to introduce John Puckett and Brian Snider as new PT and FT officers.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Kauffman seconded by Mrs. Griffith to approve the minutes of May 9, 2022 as written/corrected. SCABA is the fire dept gear. Motion Carried.

Ordinance 2022-06 entitled “AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING SECTIONS 3735.65 THROUGH 3735.70 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, ESTABLISHING AND DESCRIBING THE BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA IN THE VILLAGE OF WEST LIBERTY AND DESIGNATING A HOUSING OFFICER TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND CREATING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT HOUSING COUNCIL AND A TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY” was read. A MOTION was made by Ms. Kauffman seconded by Mr. Spriggs to adopt Ordinance 2022-06 on third and final reading. Motion Carried. 6-0. This needs to be approved by the state, advertised in newspaper, and anyone wanting this needs to fill out an application before starting projects.

The old elementary school is now condemned. There is wildlife, mold, baby vultures and trash. Clerk Boyd received quotes from H & H Environmental in the amount of $115,000-$120,000 to remove asbestos, mold, etc. Trash will be $19,500 to remove and demo of the building will be $228,000 and to level to the ground will be $13,500 these quotes are from Smith wrecking. All information was turned in to Land Bank Trust for a grant. We need to secure the building in the amount of $700. Clerk will call Ray’s Home this week. It is summer and kids will be wondering the streets.

The Purple Heart Ceremony will be 11:30 - 1:30 PM Monday Memorial Day. The parade will start at 2:00 PM.

Mrs. Zerkle is concerned with certain Parades and she has talked with several attorneys and feels it is not discrimination if we choose to only have certain parades throughout the year. She would like to change the ordinance to read only certain parades are allowed throughout the year. She will be talking with our solicitor.

Mrs. Zerkle would also like a independent audit done for our police department. She feels too much is appropriated for a police department our size. She has spoke with Richwood, Anna. St Paris etc. and they do not have $500K appropriated for their police dept. She said the income tax is only $400 K and why is the police dept $500K. Mr. Hoffman said we are 24/7 department and need to look at schedules for each officer.

Mrs. Zerkle also talked about the crosswalks and she did not get the report she asked for from ODOT. She said there has been ZERO accidents at these locations and thinks it will be a waste of money. The First responders feel this will cause accidents. She thinks this is a horrible idea. Mr. Keller started this process in 2018 and talked with all people involved and they had not problem. Mrs. Kauffman will talk with Mr. Keller (former council member) and ask why he feels this is a good idea.

Flood Mitigation meeting will be May 25 at 10 AM in the Opera House.

OPWC grant for Columbus St. Project was granted and will be having a meeting with Choice One May 26th  at 8:30 am. This will finish W. Columbus St. from Reynolds St to the Bridge. The earliest start would be July 2022 and latest start is June 2023. This project must be bid. They also discussed the Natureworks grant for Lions Club Restroom.

Splash Pad reopening will be May 28th 10-12:00 PM. Clerk Boyd explained Rise FM radio will be there, with Fire trucks, Police Bike, K-9 Officer, MJAD and Free Hot Dogs by WLBA. Goodie bags will be given to the 1st 50 kids. Kids tie-dye Splash Pad T-Shirts will be for sale $15.00.

Mr. Spriggs talked about the Aggregate agreement that Bellefontaine passed to lower their electric bill and lock in a rate. Urbana locked in for .04 cents per KWT. Mayor and Clerk will find out more information.

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Street committee talked about how dangerous the crosswalks are at SR 245 and SR 68. No solution yet.

The guardrail on SR 68 North of the Village is damaged and the driver’s insurance will cover the cost.

The salt bin was discussed and Mr. Detrick got two estimates. Demo of the old salt bin is $3000 from Heater Excavating and $2700 Shane Long Concrete. Concrete will be $31-34K from Shane Long Concrete and $31119.00 from Alexander Concrete. Building the salt bin was $14500.00 by Krabill Construction. No other bid. This would be under the $50K threshold.

Discussed Liberty Township will be selling their building and they have a salt bin.

We are very appreciative of street dept. and fire dept. for getting the tree of the road during the last storm on E. Baird St.

Safety Committee will be getting together to propose a junk vehicle Ordinance. Code enforcement is contacting Chief Oelker of police regarding the citations that need written from him.

The Deuce will be selling on Govdeals.org.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Ms. Kauffman to approve the following bills. Motion Carried.

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| Postmaster | postage | 9.00 |
| Postmaster | postage | 165.00 |
| Sherry Barger | 5 hrs. | 55.44 |
| Bill Detrick | salary | 1371.89 |
| Shane Freehauf | 79 reg 1 pers | 1129.96 |
| Mark Nelson | 76.5 hrs. 3.5 pes | 1047.95 |
| Tom Cooksey | services | 100.00 |
| Lee Deloye | 80 reg 1.25 OT | 1364.30 |
| Darren Dunham | 22 hrs. | 308.79 |
| Hodge Hager | 8 hrs. | 114.91 |
| Brett Mancini | 72 reg 8 military 17 OT | 1272.37 |
| Shane Oelker | salary | 1609.94 |
| John Puckett | 16.5 hrs. | 221.59 |
| Brain Snider | 60 hrs. | 823.04 |
| Ohio Child Support | for Manini | 302.16 |
| Allied Waste | recycling | 3118.45 |
| IRS | WH MC EMP NC | 1613.54 |
| Ohio Dept taxation | state tax | 712.37 |
| Ohio School | school tax | 410.90 |
| RITA | income | 271.51 |
| Wex Bank | gasoline | 1379.15 |
| AES | electric | 43.00 |
| AES | electric | 55.00 |
| Miami Valley | street lights | 2172.01 |
| FastTrack | sign LLL | 142.35 |
| Ohio Ready Mix | concrete | 1473.75 |
| Anthem | fee | 25.00 |
| Your Hometown | emails | 112.00 |
| Cherokee run Landfill | 33.75 TN | 2090.83 |
| AE David | uniforms | 723.15 |
| Dollar General | batteries | 43.50 |
| Shane Oelker | mileage | 54.52 |
| Your Hometown Tech | IT | 1000.00 |
| Berry Digital | emails | 59.76 |
| Cont. May 23 22 |  |  |
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| Lawn Master | grinding | 6500.00 |
| Lowes Home | Sherman Ricketts Park | 629.75 |
| unique Paving | cold patch | 372.96 |
| Quill | PT TP etc. | 128.98 |
| Anthem Life | life ins | 43.75 |
| OPWC | Loan | 991.54 |
| Kleem | signs ricketts | 70.95 |
| P S& L | loan 57439 | 2201.26 |
| Anthem | medical | 5386.22 |
| Phoenix Safety | uniforms | 212.95 |
| Phoenix Safety | uniforms | 218.00 |
| Howell Rescue | star knobs | 66.20 |
| Berry Digital | website | 1000.00 |
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Finance would like to notify all council members since we pay 100% of medical insurance we need to pay for all full-time employees no matter if they want/need it.

Parks and Recreation talked about getting Crisis Hotline signs at parks and No overnight parking, slow down and butterfly mural signs.

There is a concern about people parking at SR 245 or SR 68 and their safety. People fishing in these areas is dangerous with high traffic volume.

June 29th will be Put A Lid On It, free helmets given to kids, Shelter House dedication, Park dedication, etc. at Sherman rickets Park on 916 Sidney St. Food Trucks, Police, Fire, K-9 unit, etc will also be there. Still discussing putting a levy on the ballot for parks. Mrs. Griffith will talk with Jack Reser.

Jeff Stillings was here asking council the consider allowing chickens in town. He said with the economy – he wants to be more self-sustaining. We don’t know what the future brings and only allow a certain number of chickens and no roosters.

Mayor McKelvey asked for nominations for Business of the Month for July. Stoner Ice Cream Parlor, Marie’s Candies and Hillside Greenhouse was nominated. The criteria is to demonstrate outstanding support to community, provide superior customer service and projects, and considered a successful and professional business by peers.

We need clarification on Flex time and are they allowed to use it before they earn it? It was discussed they cannot carry over and we need job descriptions.

“Being a Good Neighbor” cleaning up the areas in front of buildings by picking up trash; sweeping the sidewalks before street sweeping days)

The tourism in Logan County Breakfast. Indian Lake Cobblestone Hotel will be built in Russells Point later this summer. National Tourism Week largest turnout was to Piatt Castle around 200 visitors for three hours available for tours. Logan County will Continue to do Monthly Scavenger Hunts since it was so popular (using Goose Chase app)

Mayor McKelvey will be holding a meeting called “What’s Next? Growing the Village meeting **June 15 at 6 pm** in the Opera House

West Liberty mugs filled with Marie’s Candies (8 oz) are microwave and dishwasher safe; available now at Marie’s Candies for $46.75; sales are going very well. Better get yours ASAP.

Logan County Ice Cream Trail & Passport are available at Stoner’s Ice Cream Parlor which is where we started our pre-meeting this evening.

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**Important Dates**

**May 24 -** Bridge Fundraiser 6 pm UCC

**May 25 -** Flood Mitigation 10 am in Opera House

**May 26** - Choice One discussion of Lions Park restroom grant and OPWC for Columbus Street bid packets; Ricketts Park Committee at LGP 4:30 pm

**May 28 -** Opening for the season Splash Pad 10-noon

**May 30 -** Purple Heart Event at 11 am in Opera House

American Legion Memorial Day Parade at 2 pm

**June 1** - Champaign County Mayor’s meeting in St. Paris 8:30 am

Business of the Month at 10:30 am

**June 2** - First Thursday Logan County Chamber 8:30 am

**June 3 -** First Friday Champaign County Chamber 8:30 am

**June 4 -** Opera House Open House from 6 pm - 9 pm

**June 8-9** - Mayor’s Association of Ohio Conference in Dublin

**June 13 - Council meeting at 7 pm**

**June 14** - Berry Digital recording of the Vietnam Veterans’ stories

**June 25 - 26** Summer Bash by WLBA

**June 26** - Fireworks at dusk

**June 29 -** Sherman Ricketts Park/Trailhead shelter house dedication at 3:30pm and Put a Lid On It from 4pm to 7 pm

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mrs. Hostetler to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Motion Carried.

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Clerk Cindee M. Boyd Mayor Jill McKelvey