final Council April 10, 2023

Present for the regular meeting of the Village of West Liberty Council was Mayor McKelvey, Mr. Spriggs, Mr. Hoffman, Mrs. Griffith, Ms. Kauffman, Mrs. Zerkle, Solicitor Moell and Clerk Boyd. Absent: Mrs. Hostetler. Guest: Krista Nelson was here to observe.

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

April Business of the Month was Theresa Gingerbread house and their candy of the month is chocolate covered Pretzels. Mayor McKelvey gave all council members chocolate pretzel from Marie’s Candies.

 A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Mrs. Griffith to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023 as written/read. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Griffith said the structural engineering will be coming the week of 17th of April for the Columbus St. Bridge. The calendar has sold 12 gold are sold, 10 silver sold, and 1 bronze.

Mr. Spriggs has received 27 American Flags for downtown area. He is working on replacing the posts since many of them are not in a good condition.

 Dannon property clean up brush removal was completed on March 31 by JT Tree Service and sidewalk repair . Shane Long said the concrete price has gone up some, but labor will be the same. West Liberty Dental asked about the alley behind their office. Mr. Detrick said that land is private property owned by Mr. Dannon. So it is not an alley.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mr. Spriggs to go into executive session to discuss Real Estate Purchase at 7:15 PM. Motion Carried. 5-0

Out of executive session at 7:36 PM.

 Supervisors evaluations were discussed and the concern has been raised that Councilmembers do not know what the supervisors do on a daily basis. Mayor McKelvey asked should we find an independent evaluator? If we find an administrator from a different village, provide job description and evaluation instrument. Mayor McKelvey will find out cost and if anyone is interested.

Many Troop Banners brackets brokewith cold weather, wind and brittle older brackets - Cabel is working on new brackets for us to try

Mayor McKelvey said President of the Board of Public Affairs or Superintendent of Water and Sewer Brad Hudson will be reporting to Council every other month with an update until the Sidney Street sewer issue is resolved. Then every quarter thereafter. The Board is working with LeVans Excavating to get an estimate for this. The sewer line needs to connect to the manhole in front of the house – It cannot go outback. The Ordinance states *The* homeowner’s responsibility for connecting to the sewer is found in Ordinance 929.06(c), which reads in part: “ All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. . .”

April 3, 2023 Keith Amlin was sent a written explanation of what he agreed to on March 3, 2023 with the overuse of vacation leave.

 Public Participation was Krista Nelson is getting her masters in social work and needed to attend and observe.

The Trolley safety and protocol agreement with Lions Club, WLBA, and Village was given to Council members and approved. Solicitor Moell approved. Clerk will send to insurance company to get their approval, then all parties will sign.

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All Lot splits or request for variances go to the Zoning Appeals Board *(created in 1972)* as per the ORC

and Changes to the zoning codes are reviewed/made by the Planning Commission *(created in 1971)* then recommended to Council for approval to change the ordinances or zoning codes. Council does not get involved before this. (ORC). This is information from Mayor McKelvey to Council members.

Mayor McKelvey said a Veterans trip to the US Air Force Museum will be on June 27, 2023. This trip is to all of our veterans and one significant other at no cost. Leaving Town Hall at 9 am and leaving the Air Force Museum at 3 pm. Lunch is being paid for by Brenda Snyder/Pig in a Pickle. $100 deposit to the Cardinal Bus Company is due by April 14. The cost for transportation is $900.28 (the bus company gave us a discount of $613) and Mary Rutan Health is going to cover these costs for us. We are still accepting interested veterans and one significant other for this trip,

A MOTION was made by Ms. Kauffman seconded by Mr. Spriggs to approve the following bill in the amount of $58,860.75. Motion Carried.

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| AES | electric dodge | 20.30 |
| AES | electric L/B | 278.93 |
| Lee Deloye | 64 reg 216 vac 1.5 OT | 1393.39 |
| Shane Oelker | salary | 1691.78 |
| Postmaster | stamps | 189.00 |
| Darren Dunham | 9 hrs  | 126.67 |
| Hodge Hager | 8 hrs | 114.91 |
| Brett Mancini | 50 reg 13 military 13 pes 4 vac | 969.93 |
| Bill Detrick | salary | 1406.30 |
| Mark Nelson | 80 reg | 1065.37 |
| Shane Freehauf | 58 reg 16 vac 2.75 Pers 2 Sl | 1406.30 |
| Cindee Boyd | salary | 1238.81 |
| Darin Leach | salary | 1313.92 |
| Jill McKelvey | salary | 357.62 |
| Chris Moell | salary | 545.38 |
| Steve Rabenstein | salary | 822.66 |
| Scott Woodruff | salary | 503.33 |
| Rick Miller | salary | 311.85 |
| ATT | mobile phone | 265.14 |
| Ohio Child Support | for Puckett and Mancini | 500.96 |
| John Puckett | 80 reg 3.5 OT | 1157.82 |
| Brian Snider | 94.5 hrs. | 1306.78 |
| IRS | WH MC Emp. MC | 1897.26 |
| Ohio Data | phones | 104.97 |
| Elle Design | BOM certificate | 37.50 |
| Wex Bank | gasoline | 1090.40 |
| Quill | supplies | 27.99 |
| Ohio School Tax | school tax | 319.34 |
| Ohio Taxation | state tax | 846.14 |
| IRS | WH MC Emp. MC | 1897.26 |
| RITA | municipal tax | 368.35 |
| Ohio Deferred Comp | for Boyd | 85.00 |
| IRS | WH MC Emp. MC | 1035.95 |
| W Productions | lettering | 130.00 |
| Cindee Boyd | seminar parking | 24.00 |
| Limitless Creations | plaque for LGP | 25.00 |
| Lowes | supplies | 38.89 |
| Streamline Design | logo etc. on new fire truck | 1578 |
| Cont. April 10 23 |  |  |
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| Quill | TP | 26.99 |
| CenterPoint | natural gas library | 227.00 |
| JT Tree Service | Donnan Property | 1500.00 |
| Beck Studios | curtains, screen, etc. | 19878.00 |
| Treasurer State of Ohio |  UAN fee | 948.00 |
| Compton Power Equipment | chainsaw | 96.48 |
| Choice One | Columbus St.  | 3400.00 |
| Cintas | mat | 43.27 |
| CT Communications | phones | 404.12 |
| Lowes | surfacemaxx | 40.84 |
| Brad Hudson | Splash pad button | 129.50 |
| WL bldg. supply | supplies | 11.97 |
| Postmaster | stamped envelope | 1508.40 |
| Cintas | uniforms | 204.05 |
| NAPA | supplies | 38.97 |
| Cherokee Run Landfill | 34.43 TN | 2566.76 |
| CenterPoint | natural gas L/B | 1190.76 |
| CenterPoint | natural gas lions club | 57.44 |
| Mary Rutan Corp Health | drug and alcohol testing | 95.00 |
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A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mr. Spriggs to rescind Ordinance 2023-08 on first and final reading, because the date is wrong. Motion Carried.

Ordinance 2023 - 09 entitled “An Ordinance to change the elected position of the Village Clerk Treasurer to an Appointed Position of Fiscal officer pursuant to Ohio R.C. 733.262 for the Village of West Liberty, Logan County, Ohio” was read. A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Mr. Spriggs to pass on 1st reading only. Motion Carried. This Ordinance would take effect January 1, 2024. This also needs to be filed with the Logan County Board of Elections

Clerk Boyd said all files have been sent over to GoGov app (thank you Mayor) Should be up and running by next meeting.

Discussion of the Old Elementary School Building: The Land Bank was made aware that because of the collapse of the roof the entire contents of the building is considered contaminated with asbestos; Estimate from H & H was $860,800 for demolition of the structure and Ohio Technical Services was $367-658.00. Mayor sent letters to the General Assembly representatives. Ohio Technical did the asbestos removal of the old Water Plant. Flexible grants may be something we can use for this project, called made on April 6 to Community Development Consultants - Mary Richards Oakley, Senior Planner to see if we qualify. Old High School is our next concern and the Veldt’s have it for sale.

Mrs. Zerkle will be attending April Safety Council.

Chief Oelker is working on a Capstone Project and will need to interview the Clerk and members of Council for it. Please try to make yourself available when the instructor emails to complete the survey. He will be graduating from this training in June. Chief Oelker is looking at another vehicle for police dept. more info to come. Tabled for now

Chief Oelker received an estimate from Burshur Electric for a generator in the amount of $10350.00 for police dept. A MOTION was made by Ms. Kauffman seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve this purchase. Motion Carried.

Fire Chief Leach stopped in Council Chambers with an emergency repair Engine #3 gear box. Could be up to $5000. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Zerkle seconded by Mr. Hoffman to repair the engine. Motion Carried.

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This question may arise this spring/summer again. Fire department fundraiser to fill pools. BD of PA has said they are okay with the WLFD doing this but Legal Counsel raised PR concerns from the past.

Mayor McKelvey has read 20 years of Board of Public Affairs Minutes and in February 2010 - The fire department used 156,992 gallons of water to fill pools. The Board of Public Affairs said the fire department doesn’t charge enough to fill pools. The Board of Public Affairs made a motion to charge the fire department for water used to fill pools in the amount of $10.00 per 1,000 gallons.

**Street Committee**

Mr. Detrick asked for permission to get a light bar and antenna on street dept. truck in the amount of $1345.00 from Kauffenbarger. Approved by Council

Lining downtown crosswalks and moving centerline on US 68/North Detroit from Columbus to just beyond Pickrelltown costs $14,048.00. A MOTION was made by Mr. Spriggs seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to approve. Motion Carried. He may be another estimate.

Mr. Detrick received another quote for brush grinding from JT Tree Service in the amount of $6000. It was $700 less than Lawnmaster. A MOTION was made by Mr. Spriggs seconded by Mrs. Griffith to approve JT Tree Service. Motion Carried.

Council needs to approve the West Columbus Street Repaving Projectbid award to J & J Schlaegel from Urbana construction will be completed by November 30, 2023. Choice One was very pleased with the bids that came in. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mr. Spriggs to accept J & J Schlaegel bid and allow Mayor to sign paperwork. Motion Carried.

 Sold the old pick up truck for $4550 through GovDeals. Tim Miller picked up April 6th.

The curb and gutter at Neer and Farm need repaired. The cost will be about $4100 and brick repair is $900. This is tabled until Mr. Detrick can talk with Dave Neer.

Parks and Recreation: No date set yet for next meeting.

Grant for Lions Park Restroom - did not receive the Land, Water, Conservation; what do we want to do with the Natureworks grant monies. Discussing with Lions Club and other options.

 BD of PA will be meeting with Lions Club on April 17 at 4 pm regarding the repairs to the bridge on SR 245 East which requires the removal of the sewer line from the bridge and moved to under the river.

Aggregation updates We have been approved. The RFPs were sent out on April 6. Utility providers have 10 days to send proposals. We will have a meeting to review these rates (electric is us, gas is with Commissioners). We are shooting for a June start.

 May Business of the Month is Ohio Caverns - they have requested that the award be given on May 3 at 8 am (if their schedules work out). The Champaign County Community Collaboration is at 8:30 am that same day in the Opera House (we are hosting).

Mayor Attended Champaign County Community Collaboration Meeting **and**  Local Businesses may get high school or college students for internships with up to $5,000 paid for by the State.

 This fall reopening of Urbana University (will have a different name) to 500 students

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 State of Ohio Auditor’s Office Joe Braden

* Job is to check compliance with State and Federal laws
* Audits safeguard public dollars against waste and abuse
* Very important to have internal control and oversight by Council and Mayor (Auditors want to know the oversight currently being used by the Village). Mr. Braden said it was a good oversight of what we are doing with Village spending by the Finance Committee reviewing (BoPA) and Committees on Council. Should probably review the Cemetery Board as well.
* Clark County Auditor’s Office- former employee pleaded guilty to two criminal counts, admitting he stole $1.8 million in public funds through a scheme involving a phony vendor.
* Example: Springfield News-Sun April 6, 2023 story on how North Lewisburg owed $2,100 in finding of recovery from the recent State of Ohio Auditor’s audit. North Lewisburg was forced to end their Mayor’s Court as well.
* Need to make sure that all Boards are following Ohio statutes and ordinances

**Important Dates**

April 14 - First Friday Champaign County Chamber - 7:30 am at REMAX/V. Patrick Hamilton Realty

April 18 - Personal Income taxes must be filed

April 19 - Tree City USA Awards Ceremony at Groveport, OH

April 20 - WLBA meeting at Mad River Farm Market at 5:30 pm

April 22 - National Trails Day AND Drug Take Back Day

April 24 - Council meeting at 7 pm

April 26 - Logan County Visitors Bureau Annual Breakfast at Town Hall Opera House at 8:30 am

May 3 - Champaign County Community Partnership is in West Liberty (Taste of the Village: Marie’s Candies has donated sample boxes; need to speak with Sweetie PIe’s, Liberty Gathering Place, and Mad River Farm Market)

May 3 - Business of the Month to the Ohio Caverns (TBA)

June 24-24 Champaign County Home and Garden Tour

September 8 & 9 Balloonfest at Grimes Field

September 28 - Pink Out in West Liberty at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall Gazebo

April 8, 2024 - Solar Eclipse (if interested in being on the Committee for Champaign County contact Polly at the Champaign County Visitors Bureau)

A MOTION was made by Ms. Kauffman seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to adjourn t 9:30 PM. Motion Carried.

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Clerk/Treasurer Cindee M. Boyd Mayor Jill C. McKelvey