January 22, 2024 Council

Present for this regular meeting of the Village of West Liberty was Mayor Hudson, Mr. Hoffman, Mrs. Griffith, Mrs. Zerkle, Mr. Spriggs, and Fiscal Officer Boyd. Absent: Mrs. Maier due to a death in the family.

Everyone met at 6:00 pm to interview Brenda Coy, Alyssa Kauffman, Alex Woodruff, Patty Kauffman, Michael Woodruff, and Kirk Larson. Mr. Hoffman asked the process of choosing a new council member. Everyone will give 3 votes- top 3 will go to 2 – then vote for 2 and them vote for last 1. First vote was Patty, Alyssa and Michael. Second vote was Patty and Michael. Michael Wodruff was chosen to be on council for 4-year term.

**Regular meeting started at 7:05 PM**. Others in attendance was Tom and Pam Allen and Burgess and Niple, Brian Tomes, Mr. Detrick, Chief Oelker, Jeremy Levan, Sharyn Kopf of Bellefontaine Examiner.

The Oath of office was administrated to Michael Woodruff by Mayor Hudson for a 4-year term.

The meeting was opened Pledge of Allegiance and Lord’s Prayer.

Tom Allen introduced Brian Tomes from Burgess and Niple. They applied for 9-point element grant and needed to be approved. This opens up for more funding. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mr. Woodruff to approve to sign contract with Burgess and Niple. Motion Carried. 5-0

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to approve the minutes of January 8, 2024 as written/read. Motion Carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Spriggs seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to approve the following bills in the amount of $36520.46. Motion Carried.

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| Paula Cronkleton | cleaning police  | 60.00 |
| Bill Detrick | reissue ck. 43642 | 6.10 |
| OPERS | penalty for Labor Day | 14.96 |
| Ohio Police and Fire | retirement | 3442.34 |
| BWC | policy payment | 462.4 |
| Cindee M. Boyd | 9 days 4 SL | 1315.39 |
| Lee Deloye | 80 reg 8 hol 6 OT | 1643.03 |
| Bill Detrick | salary 8 hol | 1435.76 |
| Darren Dunham | 8.5 hrs | 119.64 |
| Missy Hughes | 55.5 hrs 6.5 Hol | 677.88 |
| Mark Nelson | 72 reg 8 hol | 1190.73 |
| Shane Oelker | salary 8 hol | 1731.77 |
| Brian Snider | 78 reg 8 hol | 1296.09 |
| Derek Thurman | 63 reg 8 hol 9 SL | 634.03 |
| Wex Bank | gasoline | 1103.04 |
| Your Hometown Tech | IT | 1000.00 |
| Your Hometown Tech | emails | 112.00 |
| IRS | WH MC EMP MC | 1692.39 |
| Ohio Def Comp | for Boyd | 85.00 |
| Wichert | increase shelter house | 39.00 |
| P S& L  | loan police bldg. | 2201.26 |
| Doug Lash | services | 100.00 |
| Ryan Wirick | services | 100.00 |
| Limitless Creation | plaque for Business of the Yr. | 40.00 |
| Anthem | medical | 5218.97 |
| Cherokee run Landfill | 34.91 Tn | 2331.67 |
| Compton Power | wheel and blade | 162.30 |
| Solomon's Garage | oil change 2022 cruiser | 89.49 |
| M P Dory  | guardrail | 385.00 |
|  Cont. Jan 22 24 |  |  |
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| Selective Ins.  | flood ins.  | 2904.00 |
| Civista | health savings | 4054.20 |
| Solomon's Garage | battery 2016 | 364.52 |
| Levans Auto | cruiser repair 2016 | 250.00 |
| Spectrum | internet | 149.97 |
| O'Reilly Auto | parts | 25.98 |
| O'Reilly Auto | def and glass cleaner | 34.56 |
| Logan County Chamber | lunch and learn | 15.00 |
| Quill | envelopes | 31.99 |
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A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded Mr. Woodruff to take former Mayor McKelvey off signature card at P S & L checking account and Mayor Brad Hudson will be put on the account – so he can sign checks over $10K. Motion Carried. 5-0

Council members and Clerk’s office will be at the Recycling center Feb 7th 4:00 PM-6:00 PM. Mrs. Griffith, Fiscal Officer Boyd and Missy Hughes will be there helping people take recycling out of their cars. Hope others will help too.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to sign the paperwork from liquor control and we are not asking for a hearing. Fiscal Officer Boyd will sign and fax it.

Mrs. Griffith had no update on Bug – A-Boo. Hopefully next meeting.

The Board of Public Affairs recommends to increase water/sewer rates by 3% equals to $1.90. Ordinance 2024-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WEST LIBERTY, LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO, AND PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION THEREOF, BILLING MONTHLY.” was read. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Zerkle seconded by Mr. Spriggs to pass Ordinance 2024-03 on first reading. Motion Carried. 5-0

Resolution 2024-R3 entitled “A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION BY THE BOARD OF LOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR A CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST AND/OR THE ONE-TIME STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND (OTSCIF) REQUEST FOR THE URBANA-BELLEFONTAINE CONNECTOR OF THE SIMON KENTON TRAIL: TO PAVE A FINAL COURSE OF HOT-MIX ASPHALT; PERFORM WORK TO RESOLVE GEOMETRIC AND DRAINAGE ISSUES; AND, ADD BIKE PATH RAILING WHERE WARRANTED BY THE TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM.” was read. A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Mrs. Griffith to adopt Resolution 2024-R3 on first and final reading. Motion Carried 5-0

The police building is now in flood zone and we will have to purchase flood Insurance in the amount of $2904.00 annually. We can hire a surveyor to do an elevation survey and fillout paperwork for FEMA. FEMA can deny or accept this. Fiscal Officer will get a quote for this survey.

Mayor Hudson said this past Saturday snow was removed from the West Side of the downtown but the East side was not removed except a few businesses. He removed the snow with the Stiner. It only took about 1 ½ hrs. Mayor Hudson wants to help our businesses and hire someone to remove the snow. Mr. Hoffman doesn’t want to make it a big deal and we shouldn’t pay a contractor to remove snow from businesses. They need to contract with their own snow removal business.

Mayor Hudson said our last Income Survey was in late 1990’s. Quincy just had an income survey done with Access engineering, the cost could be up to $2000.00. Council could go door to door and would be less. He will find out and get the information needed.

Mayor Hudson wants to have an open house for Supervisors to give reports. He wants to have transparency for all departments.

Mayor Hudson has put a survey in the newsletter and on website about all areas of the village. He will give 5 residents $20 Liberty Bucks.

Mr. Woodruff will be on Safety Committee with Mr. Hoffman.

 Cont January 22, 2024

Mr. Hoffman needs approval for Chief Oelker to start the process for filling the vacant full-time position. A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoffman seconded by Mrs. Zerkle to allow Chief Oelker to start the process. Chief Oelker said he will start the process of hiring but they don’t do polygraph or psychological testing. Mayor Hudson said South Venia and Upper Arlington disband their police department. Chief would like to hire before April 1st and train for 3 months.

Mrs. Griffith said finance committee met and we receive about $500K for municipal tax. They visited with Fire Chief Leach and he is asking to apply for a grant for AirPacs and a new engine. The airpacs will be about $220,000.00 for 19 pacs and a cascade system. This would be 5-10% match. The engine is a $1,000,000.00 truck. A MOTION was made by Mrs. Griffith seconded by Mr. Hoffman to support the fire department on applying for these grants. Motion Carried. Fiscal Officer asked if we will be paying to apply for the grants? Mrs. Griffith said “Fire Chief Leach did not mention any cost”

Council and Mayor are still talking about recycling and trash truck purchase. Mayor Hudson said spending $250,000 for a packer used twice a week was something he wasn’t willing to sign his name to. He wished this would slow down until we have more information. Our packer now is only 2016 and is in good working order. Even if the truck has an extra dump a month, that is only $50 diesel fuel per month and doesn’t justify a $2500-month payment. Mr. Hoffman said a letter of intent was sent and we should not back out of the purchase. Mrs. Griffith said recycling was decided very fast and the purchase of truck was fast. Mrs. Zerkle said we made a committee to ask residents questions and find out more information about recycling. Mr. Spriggs said if we get this new truck it should be used more than 2 times a week and should pick up recycling.

Derek Thruman resigned and took his 40 hrs vacation. Mr. Detrick will not hire anyone right now and will get someone to run the trash on Tuesday and Friday with part-time help. Council needs to decide what to pay this new employee and CDL is mandatory – to get a CDL is $3500 class B. Mr. Detrick said right now is a good time to be down a guy but will need to hire by spring.

Mr. Detrick said the EPA opened a grant for a salt bin but it needs to be turned in by January 31st.

 A MOTION was made by Mrs. Zerkle seconded by Mr. Spriggs to adjourn at 8:51 PM. Motion Carried.

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Fiscal Officer Cindee M. Boyd Mayor Bradley A. Hudson