

**The Village of Weston
Council Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2020**

Due to an audio issue with the Mayor, Mr. Shad Kendall called the Virtual Council Meeting to order at 6:07PM. A roll call of the present council members was then taken: Mr. Dean Babcock, Mr. Dave Dewitt, Mr. Shad Kendall, Ms. Diane Hillier, and Mr. Rick Easterwood. *A motion to excuse Mr. Bill Barnhart was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Dewitt; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.* The agenda was presented with no additions. *A motion to approve the May 4, 2020 council meeting minutes as written was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Dewitt; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.*

Old Business

Ordinance 2020-3 Creating the Village Board of Tax Review received a final reading. *A motion for approval of Ordinance 2020-3 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.*

Resolution 2020-2 Requesting the Wood County Auditor to Certify to the Village of Weston the Current Tax Valuation and the Dollar Amount of Revenue that will be Generated by Renewal Tax of One and Nine Tenths (1.9) Mills Levied for the Purpose of Maintaining and Operating Cemeteries, in Excess of the 10 Mill Limitation received a final reading. *A motion for approval of Resolution 2020-2 was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.*

Three potential nuisance properties were brought to the table: 13364 Main Street which is vacant property that has a van with flat tires that has been an ongoing issue for 6-8months, 13402 Main Street has trash piling up on the front porch and backyard, and the debris pile between the railroad and Silver Street. The debris pile is unknown what is under the 8' high mound and Jeremy is working on getting an updated quote for removal, there is currently a quote from Beaverson Trucking dated 6/5/19 for \$17,000. Mr. Kendall shared that the \$17,000 should be used for safety purposes to take care of the nuisance building on Main Street and not the debris pile. Mr. Dewitt had asked why this property is a concern, which is that it is violating code. Council was all in agreement that the debris pile property should be tabled. *A motion to deem 13364 Main Street a nuisance was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0. A motion to deem 13402 Main Street a nuisance was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Ms. Hillier; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.* Paul Skaff will work on filing the complaints against these two properties.

Previous meeting had a request from the Ward family for 4H chickens. Weston Ridge Runners 4H Club submitted a response regarding the request for chicken project approval. The Ward children are in 4H as Cloverbud and Cloverbud does not make them eligible at this time to take projects, the main project is workbook based. Council agreed they did not meet the criteria for the 4H project exemption and the request for 4H chickens was denied.

Jeremy W. shared that the stone for the reservoir bank is complete and due to the weather and helping the cemetery get ready for Memorial Day the fence around the pier, removal of swing posts, leveling dirt, and signs have not been completed yet. *A motion to open the reservoir on Friday (May 22nd) assuming the snow fence gets put up at the pier, signs get placed, and swing posts get removed was made by Mr. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.*

Reports

Administrator/Maintenance: Mowing and helping Cemetery get ready for Memorial Day. Large trash went fast and was full by 11am so two more dumpsters were ordered.

Zoning Inspector: 20310 Taylor Street has submitted a permit to put up a fence and the ordinance states the fence cannot be higher than 4' from the front of the house to the front lot line and the house sits about 30' back compared to the other houses on the street. Owner is looking to put a 6' fence on the west side. Paul Skaff said the permit would have to be denied and the owner can apply for a variance. Owner of Elm Street property with junk has had the trucks removed but the yard is still accumulating metal junk. Mrs. Stump (the owner) is in the process of renting a hauler but would not be able to get the junk removed before June 6th. Mr. Easterwood shared that this property is on topic on a monthly basis and if it happens again they will be declared a nuisance. Ken also shared that there are several houses with trash in the back yards that were passed over due to hopes they would be utilizing heavy trash day, but the trash is still at some properties so letters will be sent out for those.

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel: Cheryl provided appropriations and revenue reports through 5/11/20 for the committee to review. Cheryl and committee discussed revenue projections going forward and the potential impact of COVID19. Budgets are due July 15th and the Wood County Auditor is suggesting villages reduce revenue projections by 10-15%. Cheryl will be reducing the Village's revenue projections by 15% for the proposed budget. The drainage project at Taylor Street and SR235 will be receiving a revised estimate and this project could potentially be delayed due to estimated reduction in revenues. Committee recommended the approval of installing a stone chute on the new dump truck for \$800 in order to facilitate the truck's use with the durapatcher. Committee had no recommended changes to the employee handbook. Refunds are being issued for the ball program. No update or changes with Weston Township and the EMS. Stephanie's old computer has been repurposed for the EMS and they will be using it for the I Am Responding system. Discussed Jeremy W.'s glasses being destroyed by the chipper and whether the village should provide prescription safety glasses. Bill will

follow up with his company's safety director to see what PPE is required to operate a chipper. The safety director stated that at a minimum safety glasses and hearing protection is required. Safety glasses can be the wrap around type by the recommendation is to provide prescription safety glasses.

Ms. Hillier asked how we go about getting Jeremy prescription safety glasses. Jeremy said when he picks up his new glasses he can place an order for the safety glasses. Jeremy was told to get the price of the safety glasses first to get a PO and once PO is made then order.

Parks & Rec: Discussed distributing mulch in the parks and was brought up that Jeremy wanted to wait until the parks re-opened. As of 4/27 the baseball season was cancelled by Southwood and Cheryl is in the process of registration fee refunds. The Southwood fee was never tendered and the fee was waived for this year. The fence cap needed an installation quote for the grant which Michelle is taking care of. There is a possibility of an informal Otsego League depending on quarantine restrictions. Orange Crush is planning on having games at the park to start sometime in June depending on the restrictions. Electricity at the concession stand was discussed and there is a fee to turn on and off and it was decided it would be used for Orange Crush games and to leave it on for now. Craig Warner tendered his resignation from the Parks & Rec board.

New Business

Resolution 2020-3 Submitting Votes to Fill a Vacant Board Seat on the Northwestern Water and Sewer District received a first reading.

Ambulance Service Contract for Milton Township, Milton Center and Custar are up for renewal in December. This will be sent to the Safety Committee then Finance Committee and then Council.

Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed bills to be paid and warrants to be issued for 5/5/20 to 5/18/20 at a total of \$18,619.65. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0.

2020 Membership for Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments was reviewed all in favor of membership.

Miscellaneous

Upcoming Meetings:

Safety on May 28th at 5:30PM, Mr. Easterwood said it has been a few months since there was a meeting and recommended that there be a meeting this month. EMS contracts will be on the Agenda.

Due to continued uncertainty with COVID19 guidelines the June 1st council meeting will be virtual on Zoom. Council agreed to continue the Zoom membership.

Citizens and Visitors

Paul Skaff (Village Legal Counsel) & Rob Myerholtz

Mr. Myerholtz was in attendance to get an update on the contract between the Township and EMS. He recommends if they continue the village should stop EMS service to the township. Paul Skaff shared that cutting off emergency services is not the right thing to do. They seem to be accepting the services but their legal council says that the village does not have authority to provide emergency services. Mr. Myerholtz shared the village has been providing EMS services for 50+ years. Ms. Hillier recommended that the village make contact with the township and get a response or there will be a lawsuit or cut to the EMS service. Mayor said he will reach out to Jacob and/or Bruce. It was shared that Jacob is worried about personal liability due to the Township legal counsel saying that he could put himself at risk of losing his farm. Paul Skaff informed the council that this wouldn't happen if there were a suit against the township when contracting with the Village EMS. Ms. Hillier shared that if they are worried about their farms they shouldn't be a trustee. Mayor shared they do not have a meeting before our next meeting but will reach out to one of the trustees to get some responses by the next council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM.

Jeremy Schroeder, Mayor

Stephanie Monts, Clerk