

Village of Harveysburg

Village Council

January 24, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Present:

Mayor Verga
Pat Bennett – Councilman
Randy Carruthers – Councilman
Kim Herberth – Councilwoman
Charles Juniel – Councilman
Jim Nelson – Councilman
Mark Tipton – Councilman / President of Council

Absent: None

Village Staff Present:

Mary Wilkie – Fiscal Officer
Richard Pottenger – Police Chief
Heather Matuszak – Clerk of Council
Mark Webb – Village Solicitor

Visitors / Guests:

Major Arrasmith – Warren County Drug Task Force

This is a summary of the meeting of the Harveysburg Village Council held Monday January 24, 2022, at 7:00 PM. Upon request, a recording of the meeting is available for review.

Mayor Verga called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Disposition of Previous Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Juniel to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2021, Council meeting. Second by Mr. Nelson. Roll Call – Bennett, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel, Nelson, Tipton – Aye, Nay - None. Motion passed.

Mayors Report: Mr. Verga

Mr. Verga reiterates that he continues to work with the Black School to arrange for a professional survey of the property on North Street. Surveyors spent several days the week before last at the property.

Mayor Verga states he has attempted to reach out to the Historical Society to confirm whether the survey had been completed and has received no response. If they can get a survey completed they may proceed with the BZA process.

President of Council Report: Mr. Tipton

Mr. Tipton states the survey was completed at the Black School. The new survey shows the pin near the tree moved 2-3 feet which adds an additional 350 sq. ft. to the property. It will make no difference to the shape of the parking lot or how much of the parking lot is on the Black School property.

Mr. Tipton states OML training is being offered March 5th in the city of Mason at the Marriott Hotel. The course will be \$75 which includes the printed media or for \$25 the printed media can be ordered without attending the course. The deadline for registration is March 1st.

Mr. Tipton states he has attended this course and would find it beneficial for council members to attend.

Mr. Tipton states that Sunshine Law training can be completed online. It must be completed every term and is free to complete. The link will be emailed to all council members.

Fiscal Officer: Ms. Wilkie

Ms. Wilkie provided council with copies of the Cash Summary Fund for the year 2021. It breaks down each specific fund and provides beginning/end of the year balances. It also shows how much was spent and brought in for each fund.

Ms. Wilkie reports that the Finance Committee approved \$150 bi-weekly pay for the new Clerk of Council, Heather Matuszak.

Motion made by Mr. Tipton for council to approve the pay for the Clerk of Council. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Carruthers, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Ms. Wilkie reports that Chief Pottenger is in need of a new printer for the police department. She provided a list of printers available at Costco. Chief Pottenger would like to get the Brothers printer listed for \$279.99.

Motion made by Mr. Bennett to approve the new printer for the police department. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Ms. Wilkie states she received the amended certificate back. It shows how much can be appropriated.

Ms. Wilkie recommends Resolution 2022-02 to advance from general fund to police levy fund and supplemental appropriations. Part of this will be used to pay insurance and other large bills. Ms. Wilkie will meet with Chief Pottenger to discuss the rest of the budget and decide where other money needs to be dispersed.

At Ms. Wilkie's request, Mr. Webb reads Resolution 2022-02 – this resolution approves the transfer of \$50k from the general fund to the police fund and a supplemental appropriation of \$20k from other to the police fund.

Mr. Bennett makes the motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 as an emergency measure. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay - None. Motion passed.

Mr. Bennett makes the motion that we accept Resolution 2022-02. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay - None. Motion passed.

Mr. Bennett makes a motion to adopt the federal mileage reimbursement rate of 58.5 cents per mile for village employees when driving their personal vehicles for work purposes. Second by Mr. Tipton. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Tipton makes the motion to approve a 15% raise for the Village Fiscal Officer Mary Wilkie. Second by Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Tipton makes a motion to approve a raise to \$850/month for the Village Solicitor Mark Webb. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Carruthers, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Bennett makes a motion to approve the transfer of funds to pay bills and bank reconciliation. Second by Mr. Juniel. Roll Call – Bennett, Carruthers, Juniel, Herberth, Nelson, Tipton – Aye, Nay – None. Motion passed.

Village Attorney Report: Mr. Mark Webb

Mr. Webb reports that he and Mr. Matt Nolan will meet regarding the annexation so he can give an update on that soon. He may have to obtain signatures from Massie Twp. to continue the annexation process.

Mr. Webb reports that there is a settlement conference on the Jordan Wright case. This is being handled by the Attorney General. Mr. Webb states that the village has met its limit but should be more cognizant in the future because it can affect group rates.

Mr. Webb reports that court has gone well over the past week. He states that himself, Chief Pottenger, Officer Cruse and Ashley have spoken about getting more cases into Mayor’s Court. There is currently an aggravated menacing case in Mayor’s Court and is that needs to be transferred to County Court he will follow the case and report updates to council.

Mr. Webb states he has received notice for a liquor permit from Marathon to transfer their current permit to a new LLC. The current permit is a C1 to sell sealed containers of beer. This is a notice to council to see if there are any objections. There are no objections from council regarding the transfer of this permit.

Mr. Webb states he will continue to follow up with Mr. Kenney about getting the cable laid and will follow up with council if he encounters an issue.

Guests:

Major Arrasmith from the Warren County Drug Task Force came to provide the 2021 annual report. Warren County DTF is a multi-jurisdictional unit and is part of the HIDTA program. He reports that out of county drug trafficking into the Warren County, specifically Deerfield Twp., is on the rise due to us sitting between the Dayton and Cincinnati areas.

They have 21 DTF agents dedicated to reducing the amount of illegal drugs coming into Warren County. We are currently the 13th highest county in the State of Ohio for methamphetamine seizures and 10th highest for fentanyl. During 2021, their investigations resulted in 300 felony arrests and 669 new cases.

Maj. Arrasmith thanks the Village of Harveysburg for their financial contributions. He notes that the financial contributions from the agencies within Warren County provided approximately 30% of the funding needed to operate each year.

Old Business:

Mr. Tipton gives an update on House Bill 110 projects. He will submit to county at the end of the week.

The Harveysburg High School – privately owned, structure failing, unoccupied since the 1980s, no future plans for the building by the current owner, building appears unsalvageable

Harveysburg Water Tower – village owned property, needs maintenance, has significant scrap value, provides the internet for the village, provides income of \$3,600/year

Old Hotel – privately owned, unoccupied, structure failing, condemned by health department, nothing has been done to remediate the owner, unable to contact the owner

Asbestos Tile Remediation – main hallways of the village government building and the gymnasium, approximately 4800 sq. ft., alternate use as emergency shelter

John's Garage – privately owned, fuel tanks still in ground, oil lifts in garage, in arrears on taxes and utilities, could be an asset as municipal garage, police department, or county fill station

Mr. Carruthers states LUST Laws may cover the basis of removal of the fuel tanks if they are metal.

Mr. Webb and Mr. Weinstein will discuss getting the above properties under contract.

Mayor Verga states that there may be grants available for tank removal.

Mr. Tipton states that if we remove the water tower we will need to find a replacement for internet service. He has written our state representatives, Steve Chabot, Greg Wilson, and Steve Lipps, requesting assistance for a decent internet provider.

Mr. Tipton states he has not had an update on the AED grant applications.

New Business:

Mr. Tipton reports that the Dawson Tower BZA is set for February 22, 2022.

Mr. Tipton reports that Tim Herberth will be stepping down from the BZA. We will need 2 members and one alternate.

Police: Chief Pottenger

Mr. Pottenger reports that Vehicle #1 was repaired under warranty for an oil leak problem. He did need to buy a new battery for the vehicle.

Mr. Pottenger reports that he is currently working on 2022 grants. He will be requesting 3 new AEDs. He suggests getting lockboxes for the Village Office and gymnasium so that they are available for use. This will provide the needed storage for the AEDs when they need to be removed from the patrol vehicles while off duty.

Mr. Pottenger reports that speeds on SR73 are still being cited at 70mph and over. They have had one arrest for menacing and several calls for mental health.

Mr. Pottenger states that 2022 OPOTA mandates have arrived and most classes can be completed online. He has set a department meeting and training date for March.

Mr. Pottenger reports that coverage is back to 8-12 hours a day. Cruse has returned to work but 2 other officers, Welling and Collins, are out due to COVID.

Mr. Pottenger reports that warnings have/will be issued for vehicles left on the street if snow reaches or is expected to reach 2 or more inches.

Mr. Pottenger also notes that the two officers currently in training will be ready for solo duty by the first week of February.

Committees:

- Community Relations - None
- Finance - None
- Grants - None
- Planning and Zoning – None
- Records - None
- Trees - None

Mr. Juniel made the motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Second by Mr. Bennett. Motion passed by voice vote.

Randy Carruthers was sworn in as councilman by Mayor Verga after the session ended.

Attest:

Heather Matuszak, Clerk of Council

Mayor Richard Verga

Mark Tipton, President of Council

Kim Herberth

Randy Carruthers

Pat Bennett

Charles Juniel

Jim Nelson