

Village of Harveysburg

Village Council

March 11, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Present:

- Mayor Jonathan Funk
- Jim Nelson – President of Council
- Pat Bennett
- Dick Verga
- Randy Carruthers
- Kim Herberth
- Charles Juniel

Absent:

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Village Staff Present:

- Chase Kirby – Village Solicitor
- Heather Matuszak – Clerk of Council
- Mary Wilkie – Fiscal Officer
- Phil Trovillo – Street Commissioner

Visitors / Guests:

- Noel Dittmar Lesniak – Harveysburg Resident

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*This is a summary of the meeting of the Harveysburg Village Council held March 11, 2024, at 7:00 PM.
Upon request, a recording of the meeting is available for review.*
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Mayor Funk calls the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He leads the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

Roll Call: Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel

Disposition of Previous Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Juniel to approve the February 12th minutes as written. Second by Mr. Bennett.
Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Funk gives thanks to all for coming tonight and participating in the Council meeting.

Mayor Funk reports that the CDBG grant for the South Street Project is back in the running after completing the required income survey forms for re-evaluation.

Mayor Funk would like to remind all about our electrical aggregation with Trebel Energy. The Village is locked in at 6.83¢ per kWh for 5 years. A study is currently underway to evaluate how much on average the Village residents are saving compared to current AES rates.

Mayor Funk states Little Miami Gig (LMG) is stopping by homes and asking residents if they would be interested in signing up for the fiber optic internet they are installing throughout the Village. The installation should be complete in 1-3 months.

Mayor Funk reports that we have confirmed the Village has a one-year bond with the company who did the work on Grant Street. We will contact them and find the best time for them to come repair the areas that are settling along the new roadway.

Mayor Funk reports the BZA met on February 20th regarding the parking variance for Dollar General. The parking variance was approved, and the Dollar General will continue to move forward.

Mayor Funk reports that he, Mark Tipton, and Jim Nelson recently worked on stripping and waxing the floors in the Village Government Building. He would like to finish the gym flooring next.

Mayor Funk reports that thanks to Jim Nelson for the purchase of a new flag and the Massie Twp Fire Department for repairing the flagpole, we now have a flag flying again.

Mayor Funk reports the culverts in front of the Marathon gas station are clogged. The south end was cleared by Warren County and immediately clogged again with the next rain. The issue needs to be assessed and fixed for proper drainage. He would like to get quotes from a couple companies to come out and clear the mud and debris, so we are able to get a better look at what is causing the clogs. He would like the Council to approve an amount that could cover the initial clearing of the lines. Mrs. Wilkie states the Council could approve up to \$2,000 and if the quote is more than that then the Council can hold an emergency meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Bennett to approve up to \$2,000 for the clearing of the drainage lines. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mayor Funk reports that after repairs were completed on the Village Building roof, it is still leaking and leaking heavily. He is going to contact the company who did the work. It seems that there is standing water somewhere for the amount of time it has been leaking.

Mayor Funk reports that the gutters on the back of the building have come off and need to be replaced. He will call some people for quotes. It appears that the wood will need to be repaired before new gutters can be secured.

President of Council Report:

Mr. Nelson states residents have asked if we will have a dumpster brought in again. He suggests that if we get a dumpster, we have a Community Clean-up Day as well. There is trash and debris that needs to be picked up throughout the Village. The dumpster should also be placed in front of the Village Building so the cameras can see it because in previous years there have been issues with illegal materials being dumped.

Mr. Nelson states that some of the storm sewer grates still need to be cleaned of the leaves and debris for better drainage.

Mr. Nelson asks if we are going to start enforcing the chicken permit and yearly fees. Mayor Funk states that will come in time, but we have some bigger things to focus on first.

Mr. Nelson states that after speaking with Mr. Riviera, he would like to see better verbiage on our Demolition Ordinance. Mayor Funk states he is working with Tim Hill on that for better clarification within the ordinance. Mr. Nelson states that it was also mentioned that we should also contact the Corps of Engineers about demolition considering we are so close to the lake.

Mr. Nelson states that we should begin working on verbiage for the Operating Levy, so we do not rush to get it on the ballot this time.

Mr. Nelson reports that the "No Outlet" sign has been destroyed at the bottom of McDonald Street and needs to be replaced.

Mr. Nelson wants to check on behalf of Mayor Funk if he could be reimbursed for the cost of the materials to strip and wax the flooring. Mayor Funk states in total that the materials cost \$150.82. Mr. Kirby will verify that Mayor Funk can be reimbursed.

Fiscal Officer:

Mrs. Wilkie states she closed 2023 into February. The January and February bank reconciliations and cash summaries are complete.

Mrs. Wilkie states we need to pass permanent appropriations and briefly goes over what that will include.

Mrs. Wilkie states that Mayor Funk will be attending the local mayor's conference in Columbus, and he will stay at the Hyatt Hotel where the conference will be held. She would like Council to approve up to \$1,000 for expenses incurred for him to attend the conference.

Motion made by Mr. Carruthers to approve up to \$1,000 to cover the expenses for Mayor Funk to attend the conference. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

At the request of Mayor Funk, Mrs. Wilkie reads over the financial report that is year-to-date.

Mayor Funk goes over the previous 3 years of the General Fund and Police Fund. It shows the Monies, Expenses, and ending Total for the funds. He also states that he has spoken with Chief Pottenger, and the Chief will no longer receive a salary, but be paid hourly. He states that Chief Pottenger and Lt. Perkins will be looking for a new Chief of Police for Harveysburg.

Motion made by Mr. Nelson to pay bills and accept bank reconciliation. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Village Attorney Report:

Mr. Kirby states he will work on preparing the Operating Levy and the Police Levy.

Mr. Kirby reads, by title only, **Resolution 2024-05**: Approving the permanent appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Bennett to declare Resolution 2024-05 an emergency and to waive the three readings. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mr. Nelson to adopt Resolution 2024-05. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Kirby completes the second reading, by title only, of **Resolution 2024-03**: The demolition of the vacant building located at 81 West Main Street, Harveysburg, Ohio 45032.

Mr. Kirby completes the third reading, by title only, of **Ordinance 2024-02**: Adopting the Harveysburg Village Council Rules of Procedure.

Motion made by Mr. Nelson to adopt Ordinance 2024-02. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Kirby reads, by title only, **Resolution 2024-04**: Approving the Countywide 9-1-1 Final Plan.

Motion made by Mr. Carruthers to declare Resolution 2024-04 an emergency and waive the three readings. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mr. Carruthers to adopt Resolution 2024-04. Second by Mr. Juniel. Vote – Nelson, Bennett, Verga, Carruthers, Herberth, Juniel – Aye / Nay – None. Motion passed.

Mr. Kirby states he has had some questions about a petition for referendum circulating in the Village regarding the Admissions Tax and people wanted to know what the procedure was for that. He states that it begins with the petitioner getting a certified copy of the ordinance from the Village. The petitioner then gets 10% of signatures from electors from the last governor election to get on the ballot for the next general election. He states there are some strict rules such as, they must be signed with ink, specific words that must be printed in red, if you sign and you're not a voter in the Village then it is a felony, and so on. The next step is to send it to the auditor who approves it for the Board of Elections and then the Board of Elections will certify it for the ballot at the general election if everything is correct.

Guests:

NONE

Old Business:

Mr. Bennett states that citizens of the Village had asked to be better informed and be transparent. He states the agenda from the previous meeting did not have an item listed for designating members for the Admissions Tax Board. If there were residents interested in being considered for that board then they did not know to be at that meeting to express interest. Mayor Funk states that was his mistake for not giving that as a topic for the agenda.

Mr. Bennett also states the recent BZA meeting for the Dollar General parking variance was not publicly posted for people who wanted to go to the meeting. Mayor Funk states that the Village paid \$350 to have the BZA meeting posted in the local paper, it was spoken about during the Council meeting prior to the BZA meeting, and it was also posted multiple times on the Harveysburg local Facebook groups.

Mr. Carruthers adds that if residents are not attending meetings, then it is not our responsibility to go door to door to update residents on what is happening. He states it is their civic duty to come and participate in our public meetings.

Guest Noel Dittmar Lesniak states that she has been coming to the meetings since the beginning of the year and she has never once looked at the agenda for a Council meeting. She appreciates the more lax forum where guests may speak without being on the agenda. She states she admires Mr. Bennett's defense of the people but suggests a different way to reach the people without catering to them. She states in a previous meeting it was suggested to have Town Halls and she thinks that would go over well. She has noticed the talk that happens on the Facebook pages, but says people still aren't coming even with the information out there. She says just tonight she has learned a lot about the budget because she was able to come. Other residents may not be able to come to meetings for one reason or the other, so an out of the box means of communication may work better.

Ms. Herberth states that the idea has been discussed on sending emails to residents who want to stay informed.

New Business:

Mrs. Matuszak reads a flyer stating there will be a Warren County Community Shred & Electronics Recycling Day that will be on May 11th from 10am-1pm. The location will be 406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036.

Mrs. Matuszak reads a flyer stating there will be tire collection events on April 13th at 418 Fairview Dr., Carlisle, OH 45005 and on April 27th at 9120 Morrow-Rossburg Rd., Pleasant Plain, OH 45162. Both events will be held from 8:00am-12:00pm. Rims must be removed from tires.

Police:

NONE

Streets & Buildings:

Mr. Trovillo states that Bill will be purchasing cold patch next week. He states we still need to get the old truck down to be repaired. Mrs. Wilkie states both expenditures have been approved previously.

Planning Commission:

NONE

Committees:

The following committees have been suspended until further notice: Streets & Buildings, Finance, Police, Community Relations, Tree Board, and Grants. All committee business will occur during the regularly scheduled Council meetings.

Planning and Zoning – 3/26 at 6:30pm

Admissions Tax Board – 4/2 at 6:30pm

Records – TBD

Motion made by Mr. Nelson to adjourn at 8:26pm. Second by Mr. Juniel. Passed unanimously.

Attest:

Mayor Jonathan Funk

Jim Nelson, President of Council

Pat Bennett

Dick Verga

Randy Carruthers

Kim Herberth

Charles Juniel

Heather Matuszak, Clerk of Council