**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

Minutes of The Regular Meeting

Held March 11, 2024, @ 7:00 P.M.

Council met in Regular session with Lora Lyons, Brad Bohland, Annette Danner, Jason Hower, Nancy Speice, Allen Wobler and Jennifer Zartman present.

Guests Present: Fire Chief Jesse Hefner, EMS Coordinator Bill Lyons, Police Chief Rodney Miller and Police Officer Brandon Shuherk.

The Minutes from the February 19, 2024 meeting were read. Councilwoman Zartman made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Speice seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**EMS: EMS Coordinator Lyons** was present and reported the following to Council:

1. There have been nine runs this month and zero missed runs.
2. EMS Coordinator Lyons reported that Squads 51 and 54 are back in service.
3. EMS Coordinator Lyons stated they are just waiting for First Due, the reporting system replacing Emergency Reporting, to bring the department online.
4. EMS Coordinator Lyons reported that Police Officer Shuherk has passed his EMR test and he would like to list him on the EMS Roster. Councilwoman Speice made a motion to add Police Officer Shuherk to the EMS Roster. Councilman Bohland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
5. EMS Coordinator Lyons suggested constructing a building, in the future, to house the EMS and Fire vehicles due to the increased size of the vehicles. This building would need heat and a generator. The current Fire/EMS Station will remain. Mayor Lyons stated that she has not heard about the grant that was submitted for a new Fire/EMS Station.
6. Mayor Lyons provided Council with the Medicount Annual Report.
7. EMS Coordinator Lyons stated that all the information for the BWC power lift grant has been submitted.

**Fire Department: Chief Hefner** was present and reported the following to Council:

1. There has been two runs this month.
2. Chief Hefner stated that Owen Taylor, who was approved as a fire fighter at the last meeting, has moved and will not be joining the department,
3. Chief Hefner stated that he tried to contact Van Wert Fire Equipment for updated quotes on boots and gear, but was unable to reach them. The 2023 quote for boots was $518.00 and for gear $2,856.09. Councilman Wobler made a motion to purchase the boots. Councilman Bohland seconded and the motion passed unanimously. He will continue to try to get updated quote for the gear.

**Police Department:** **Police Chief Miller** was present and reported the following to Council:

1. Officer Shuherk has completed his six-month probationary period.
2. Police Chief Miller questioned if AEP was going to finish repairing the driveway at the retention pond where the shooting range is located. He asked if they do not return, could he have Kauser Trucking to bring stone for the driveway. Mayor Lyons stated that she would review the AEP easement contact and contact AEP if they are responsible.
3. The options for the front door security at the Village Office was again discussed. It was decided not to install the system received from Amazon.
4. Police Chief Miller stated that he has sent a letter to a resident on Plainfield Drive that has a refrigerator in their driveway.
5. Police Chief Miller reported that there are two property owners on South Laura that are interested in having the Land Bank demolish their houses.

**Street:** **Mayor Lyons and Street Employee Randy Miller** reported the following to Council:

1. AEP has installed the additional street light on Fairfield Avenue.
2. Randy Miller asked that the residents be reminded to separate sticks and grass clippings and place them near the road for pickup. Sticks should be no longer than 6’ and the diameter can be no larger than 6”. Pickup is scheduled for every Monday.
3. Randy Miller reported that the leaf machine is at Benschneider Auto for electrically repairs.
4. Randy Miller stated that geese have arrived at the Village Park. He is concerned that more geese will arrive. Discussion was held on possible deterrents.
5. Randy Miller informed Council that he has not heard from Tawa Mulching concerning the mulching. He will contact them again.

**Zoning: Mayor Lyons** reported the following to Council:

1. Mayor Lyons informed Council that she has not heard from the Village Solicitor regarding adding definition to the Zoning Ordinance in the mobile home area for tiny houses.

**Committee Reports:**

1. The Quarterly Fire/EMS Meeting with the township trustees will be April 10, 2024.

**Correspondence Letters:**

1. Mayor Lyons informed Council that she received an invitation to join the Northwest Ohio Mayor’s and Manager’s Association for the cost of $100.00. Councilwoman Danner made a motion to join the association for $100.00. Councilwoman Zartman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Mayor Lyons informed Council that U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown is conducting a webinar on March 13, 2024, to discuss fiscal year 2025 appropriations.
3. Mayor Lyons provided Council with an invitation to attend the Northwest State Green Carpet Fundraiser on May 16, 2024.
4. Mayor Lyons provided Council with an invitation to attend the Paulding County Area Foundation Dinner on Tuesday April 2, 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mayor Lyons reminded Council that Monday April 8, 2024 is the Solar Eclipse. Additional EMS daytime staffing will be on hand. Also, additional police coverage is planned for that day.
2. Mayor Lyons informed Council that she was contacted by WT Art Teacher, Angie Stokes. She has an additional $10,000.00 grant to spend in 2024. Currently, her students are working on the Veterans banners for the Village to be ready for Memorial Day. The grant money will cover the cost of the brackets. “Home of the Raiders” banners will be provided to hang when the Veterans banners are taken down. She has a student who will work with Thomas Zuber to complete the base for the Killed in Action plaque for Buckeye Memorial Veterans Park. Her art students are still planning to paint a mural on the west side of the Fire/EMS Station. Mayor Lyons asked Council to consider other community projects that she could discuss with Angie Stokes.
3. Mayor Lyons reported that the 2023 BWC audit is complete. The Village will receive a small refund. The BWC auditor has allowed the Village to resubmit the 2022 True Up for a possible refund also.
4. Mayor Lyons discussed the Paulding County Area Foundation grant with Council. She presented pictures of exercise equipment and games that could be purchased with the grant.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Mayor Lyons reminded Council that the Paulding Area Support Society Annual Basketball Marathon will be March 29th and 30th at Payne Elementary. Registrations are due by March 13, 2024.
2. Mayor Lyons informed Council that the WTHS NHS will be holding a 5K in the Village on Saturday May 11, 2024. Set up will begin at 6:30 a.m. The race/walk begins at 8:00 a.m.
3. Mayor Lyons updated Council on the ODNR/RTP Pathway Grant. This would improve the walking path at the Village Park to a 10-foot pathway. The Village would be required to provide $28,000.00.
4. Mayor Lyons stated that the mosquito treatment schedule has been received from Buckeye Exterminating. The cost has increased $10.00 per treatment. The cost per treatment is now $385.00. Councilman Wobler asked if the July 8th treatment could be moved to July 2nd before the July 4th holiday. Fiscal Officer Rhonda Stabler will contact Buckeye Exterminating and request the change.
5. Mayor Lyons reminded Council that the Real Waste rates will go up to $11.95 per month in May.
6. Mayor Lyons informed Council that the Paulding County Commissioners have listed a 30kw generator with transfer switch on Govdeals. Council discussed a possible purchase but needs to investigate the condition of the generator.
7. Mayor Lyons discovered she was incorrect on the price of purchasing fish from Paulding County Soil and Water Conservation District. She did get a quote from Remlinger Fish Farm and would like to purchase the fish from them instead for a cost of $623.00. Remlinger Fish Farm will deliver the fish and put them in the pond at the Village Park. Councilwoman Zartman made a motion to purchase fish from Remlinger Fish Farm for $623.00. Councilwoman Danner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Mayor Lyons stated that she and Brant Heck met with Stacy Miller from the Ohio Department of Foresty to get her opinion on what type of trees to purchase for the ODNR Grant at the Village Park and what type of trees to purchase to replace trees that will be removed for the waterline replacement projects on Merrin and Oak Streets. Stacy will forward her suggestions to Mayor Lyons. She also informed the Mayor that they do offer a free risk assessment for trees in the Village. This information would let the Village know what trees are compromised and may need to be removed.
9. Mayor Lyons informed Council that she has asked M&M Asphalt for a quote for Evard Street, but has not received the quote. She is asking Dangler Excavating for a quote on the paving patch work in the Village. She reminded Council that there is $11,555.70 availabe in permissive tax funds for paving.
10. Mayor Lyons provided Council with the insurance renewal invoice of $30,952.00 from V.S. Beck Insurance. She also provided Council with the Cyber Protection Plan, Equipment Plan, Earthquake Coverage information and a Claim Loss List. After reviewing the documents, Councilwoman Zartman made a motion to pay the insurance renewal of $30,952.00 without increasing the cyber protection or purchasing the earthquake coverage. Councilman Bohland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
11. Mayor Lyons introduced Ordinance 2024-5, an ordinance fixing the compensation, bonds and benefits of the officers, clerks and employees of the Village of Payne, Paulding County, Ohio, and repealing Ordinance No. 2024-2, and all prior ordinances inconsistent herewith, with respect to the same, and declaring an emergency. Councilwoman Speice made a motion to suspend the rules. Councilman Wobler seconded and the motion passed unanimously. President of Council, Danner, read Ordinance 2024-5. Councilman Wobler made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-5. Councilman Bohland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
12. Mayor Lyons reported that she has not heard back from the Village Solicitor concerning the non-exclusive easement with Cultivate Power. Mayor Lyons and Council will wait for the Solicitor to review the document before signing.
13. Mayor Lyons reported that she has not heard back from the Village Solicitor concerning the Marijuana Ordinance.
14. Mayor Lyons stated that the surveys were inserted into the water/sewer/refuse statements in March asking the Village residents for community feedback on what they would like to see improved in the Village. Mayor Lyons asked if Council would split the cost of the $25.00 refunds offered by returning the survey with the BPA. Councilwoman Zartman made a motion to spilt the $25 refund cost with the BPA. Councilwoman Danner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
15. Mayor Lyons informed Council that Dylan Worden from Midstates Energy Solutions contacted her concerning the USDA loan for solar panels for the Village. Mayor Lyons and Council would like to wait to hear on the grant that the Village applied for before considering a loan.
16. Mayor Lyons presented Council with the Payne Ball Association Agreement for 2024. Mayor Lyons stated that the agreement is the same as previous years. Councilwoman Danner made a motion to enter into the agreement with the Payne Ball Association. Councilman Wobler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
17. Mayor Lyons introduced Resolution 2024-E, a resolution granting American Electric Power an easement to install underground power lines as described on the attached exhibit “A” (123 Evard Street) and authorizing the Mayor to execute any necessary documents to effectuate the easement and declaring an emergency. Councilman Wobler made a motion to suspend the rules. Councilwoman Zartman seconded and the motion passed unanimously. President of Council, Danner, read Resolution 2024-E. Councilman Wobler made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-E. Councilwoman Zartman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
18. Mayor Lyons stated that Fiscal Officer Rhonda Stabler has suggested moving $150,000.00-$200,000.00 from the Antwerp Exchange Bank to Star Ohio. The Antwerp Exchange Bank account is currently earning .15% interest. The Star Ohio account is currently earning 5.49%. Councilman Wobler made a motion to have the Fiscal Officer transfer $200,000.00 from the Antwerp Exchange Bank to Star Ohio. Councilwoman Zartman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
19. Mayor Lyons informed Council that she has not received any updated from the Village Solicitor on items that given were to her two months ago. The Village Solicitor has responded with she is still working on them. Council suggested looking for a new Solicitor.

**BPA: Mayor Lyons** reported the following to Council:

1. Jones and Henry Engineers had been working on a Water Treatment Plan. An invoice has been received that exceeds the $49,900.00 agreement price. Mayor Lyons stated that John Hall did approve the additional EPA permit work which resulted in the additional charges. The invoice will be paid and the work with Jones and Henry Engineers has been closed out.
2. The West Merrin Street and Oak Street waterline replacement project contracts have been signed.
3. Kleinfelder will be coming to tour and examine the Water Plant.

**Good and Welfare:** There was no report for Good and Welfare.

Councilwoman Danner made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented by the Fiscal Officer. Councilwoman Speice seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Danner moved to approve the payment of bills presented, Councilman Bohland seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Speice abstaining from any payments to Ray Speice.

With no further matters to discuss, Councilman Zartman made a motion to adjourn, Councilman Wobler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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Mayor Lora Lyons Fiscal Officer Rhonda Stabler