

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in regular session at the Amberley Village Municipal Building, 7149 Ridge Road on Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Muething called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

**PRESENT:**

Richard Bardach  
Bill Doering  
Peg Conway  
Ed Hattenbach  
Thomas C. Muething  
Ray Warren  
Natalie Wolf

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor  
Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council  
Chief Rich Wallace, Police/Fire  
Lt. Brian Blum, Police/Fire

**ABSENT:**

Rick Kay, Treasurer  
Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager

Mayor Muething welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Amberley Village Council. He then led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Muething presented the minutes of the February 9, 2015 regular meeting. He asked if there were any corrections or additions. Since there were none, Mayor Muething stated that the minutes were approved.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Village Manager Scot Lahrmer was on vacation for this meeting. Council Member and Finance Committee Chair Ed Hattenbach presented the January, 2015, Finance Report (a copy of which is attached hereto). Mr. Hattenbach reported a summary of this report and noted tax collections for the month of January totaled \$237,928. The total general fund revenue for the month of January was \$272,980 while expenses equaled \$318,892. At the end of January, the unencumbered General Fund balance was \$3,333,570. The report was accepted as submitted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**POLICE/FIRE COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Conway presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-3, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement for the Fire Department. Mayor Muething noted that this was an update to an existing agreement. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Conway presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-4, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract to Purchase Camera Equipment for Two Police Cruisers. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously. The additional cameras will replace obsolete equipment and improve officer safety, accountability and aid in investigations.

Mrs. Conway presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-5, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract to Purchase License Plate Readers. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the motion carried unanimously. Prior license plate readers were obtained through grant funding no longer available. This equipment instantly compares images to a database of stolen or wanted vehicles as

well as Amber Alerts and when matches occur the officer is notified. The cost is \$16,825 and the Village will purchase two for a total of \$36,641. The department has been pursuing a used system through the city which may save the Village the cost of purchasing a second system. The committee recommended that if the used system is not available by June 1 to purchase the second system.

Mrs. Conway presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-6, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract to Purchase Two New Police Cruisers. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the motion carried unanimously. It was noted that the department did not purchase vehicles in 2010 or 2011 and purchased two used vehicles in 2012. In 2014, three new vehicles were purchased. The two new purchases will allow for two existing vehicles that have served the extent of their useful life to be taken out of service and sold. Beyer Chevrolet met State of Ohio pricing at a total cost of \$63,298 for two Chevy Tahoe vehicles.

After discussion from Mr. Warren and Lt. Blum in regards to the number of existing vehicles and the methodology for rotation, Mayor Muething commented that the purchases are consistent with the Financial Sustainability Report and the Village monitors spending to ensure that funds are spent appropriately and costs are deferred as much as possible.

### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS & PARKS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Doering presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-7, Resolution Establishing Fee for Tennis Key Cards. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously. The fee for a resident to obtain a two-year card is \$50, one-year cards being \$35. The fee for non-residents to obtain a two-year card is \$100, one-year cards being \$75.

### **LAW COMMITTEE**

Mr. Bardach presented and conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2015-3, Ordinance for the Disposition of Real Property. He reported that the Village Council authorized a listing agreement with Jones Lang LaSalle to market the North Site. The next step to position the Village to dispose of real property is to consider establishing criteria.

The Law Committee worked with Solicitor Frank to identify criteria which could be used to obtain a fair return in consideration for the conveyance of real property. Factors could include economic development objectives, the facilitation of development or other improvements to the Village, the creation of jobs, the creation of revenue to the Village, avoiding costs to maintain or own the property, and fulfillment of objectives regarding the planning and development of the Village.

Mayor Muething commented that most communities have a similar ordinance and this would establish for the Village what other communities have already. The ordinance requires a two-thirds vote of council to approve of any conveyance of real property.

### **STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Doering reported the committee met and reviewed the 2015 road repair program. The proposed program includes repave and mill of Fair Oaks Drive and Lane, Hudson Parkway, Royal Oak and Laurel Oak. Curb repair is proposed on Twigwood Lane and Arborcrest Drive, as well as asphalt patching on Ridge Road, north of Section Road. The program also includes repair of a small section on Willowbrook and bridge repairs on Fair Oaks Drive. The total estimated cost is \$440,000 from the storm water and street funds.

## **COMPENSATION & BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Warren reported that the committee met on February 24 and March 5 to discuss employee wage adjustments. He stated the Village was fortunate to have dedicated staff to keep residents safe and streets that remain clear and drivable. He noted that the committee's goal was that staff earn competitive wages and benefits. Employees requested a 4% increase and one additional personal day. The committee considered several motions for 2 and 3 percent increases and recommended at 2.5% wage increase which would also apply to fire pay.

Mr. Warren presented, read and moved to approve Ordinance 2015-4, Ordinance Fixing Compensation for Village Employees. Seconded by Mr. Doering. Council held discussion regarding the costs associated with a 2.5% or 3% wage increase.

Mrs. Conway moved to amend Ordinance 2015-4 to from 2.5% to 3%. Seconded by Mr. Bardach and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Bardach, Conway, Hattenbach, Muething, Wolf (5)  
NAY: Doering, Warren (2)

After additional discussion, Mayor Muething requested a roll call vote to approve Ordinance 2015-4 as amended at 3% and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Bardach, Conway, Hattenbach, Muething, Wolf (5)  
NAY: Doering, Warren (2)

Mrs. Conway moved to approve to waive the three readings of Ordinance 2015-4. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Bardach, Conway, Doering, Hattenbach, Muething, Warren, Wolf (7)  
NAY: (0)

Mr. Hattenbach moved to approve Ordinance 2015-4 as an emergency measure for the necessity of implementing wage adjustments for Village employees as soon as possible to ensure a productive workforce and to apply such adjustments by April 1, 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Bardach, Conway, Doering, Hattenbach, Muething, Warren, Wolf (7)  
NAY: (0)

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Muething reported that the Manager's Report will be given at the April meeting.

### **Environmental Stewardship Committee**

Mayor Muething stated the Environmental Stewardship Committee held a suburban wildlife talk on March 2. Dr. Janet Clem, a local veterinarian conducted the talk. He noted this is part of the committee's ongoing effort to provide informative presentations to residents and encouraged attendance at the fall presentation.

Mayor Muething announced that the One Stop Drop recycling event will be held March 29 from 12-4 p.m. at the Amberley Green. Acceptable items include recyclable electronics, paper shredding and gently used kitchenware, nothing with a cord. A resident is involved with a charitable organization that provides the kitchenware as part

of a program to assist disadvantaged or mentally challenged individuals moving into their first home.

Mayor Muething announced that the Arbor Day celebration in Amberley Villlage will occur on April 22 at 6 p.m.

The next meeting of the Environmental Stewardship Committee will be on March 23 at 7 p.m.

Mayor Muething noted that there are two plots available for those interested in gardening at the community garden at Amberley Green. Contact the administration office if interested.

### **Village's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Mayor Muething reported that the Village will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 16. Details will be forthcoming. A number of committees are working to plan the event. Residents interested in being involved should contact the administration office.

Mayor Muething reported that he attended the Hamilton County Public Health annual meeting on March 2. He stated Amberley receives its health services from the County, along with most other villages, townships and cities. The meeting included discussion on outbreaks of contagious diseases. He stated they do provide services for examining ground water contamination and are an overall good resource for residents.

Mayor Muething announced the Village's spring print newsletter should arrive in mailboxes over the next week or early the following week. The print newsletter is sent out biannually to ensure the Village reaches all residents.

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

---

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

---

Mayor Thomas C. Muething