

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in regular session at the Amberley Village Municipal Building, 7149 Ridge Road on Monday, April 13, 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
Thomas C. Muething
Ray Warren
Natalie Wolf

ALSO PRESENT:

Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor
Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council
Chief Rich Wallace, Police/Fire
Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager

ABSENT:

Rick Kay, Treasurer
Ed Hattenbach

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 March 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 presented the February, 2015, Finance Report (a copy of which is attached hereto). Mr. Lahrmer reported a summary of this report and noted tax collections for the month of February totaled \$244,968. The total general fund revenue for the month of February was \$349,996 while expenses equaled \$398,995. At the end of February, the unencumbered General Fund balance was \$3,303,525. The report was accepted as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Muething announced that the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals is comprised of one member from council and four residents. He noted the importance of having a good mix of skills on the board and there are three attorneys, one member from the real estate industry and one member from municipal government. Two members' terms have expired and have expressed their interest to serve another four year term.

Mr. Bardach commented that Chuck Kamine has expressed his interest in the past to serve on the board should an opening become available in the future.

Mayor Muething moved to re-appoint Rick Lauer to a second four-year term through the end of 2018, commencing January 2014. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Muething moved to re-appoint Susan Rissover to a four-year term through the end of 2018. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE:

Mr. Doering presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-8, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Bid Joint Paving Projects with the Village of Silverton. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Doering noted that the Village jointly bid the road repair program and Silverton will administer the contract for which the Village will reimburse Silverton.

There was discussion regarding the effort to collaborate with other communities on projects to reduce the expense of the road program as well as reduce staff time. It was noted that the Village received very fair and attractive pricing.

Mr. Doering presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-9, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract for Mowing Services for 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously. Three mowing areas were contained in the bid and three vendors responded. The Amberley Green was awarded to EMES Lawn Care for \$27,300; the North Site and Village-owned right of ways was awarded to Fredrick's Landscaping for \$24,250; and the municipal building area was awarded to Greatful Growers for \$7,500 for the mowing season.

There was discussion regarding ruts on the Amberley Green caused by a mowing service. It was noted that the property was very wet when this occurred and that the vendors contracted this year will be alerted to be mindful of operating on wet properties.

Mr. Doering presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-10, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract for Roof Replacement for the Maintenance and Storage Buildings at the North Site. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Doering commented that because the buildings are commercial a second layer of shingles is not permitted. The bid was awarded to Mid-Miami Roofing in the amount of \$31,195.

Mr. Doering presented and conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2015-5, Ordinance Authorizing Modification of Storm Water Rates. He reported that the Village has completed all of the major storm water projects and the project on Willowbrook was cancelled due to the cost versus the results. The Storm Water Advisory Board and the Streets, Public Utilities & Sewers Committee met and both recommended a proposed reduction of 40% to the storm water fee. The rate reductions will be as follows:

Class	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
R-1 Under 0.5 acres	\$75 per year	\$45 per year
R-2 0.5 acres to under 1 acre	\$150 per year	\$90 per year
R-3 1 acre to under 1.75 acres	\$237 per year	\$142 per year
R-4 1.75 acres to under 2.5 acres	\$329 per year	\$197 per year

Discussion was held regarding how the 40% reduction rate was derived. It was noted that with no major projects going forward and continuing to generate \$200,000 per year, sufficient funds would be in place to operate storm water repairs in a maintenance mode. Initially, a backlog of projects existed and those have been completed. It was

clarified that the storm water fund balance gets down to approximately \$48,000 while operating a \$300,000 program and this reduction will require monitoring of the balance as the \$200,000 generated is mostly committed to repairs and maintenance. There will be some room to consider other storm water projects, however, not necessarily a reserve balance. It was confirmed two additional readings will take place on the proposed ordinance.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Doering reported on behalf of Mr. Hattenbach who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Doering presented, read and moved to approve Ordinance Amending Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Bardach, Conway, Doering, Muething, Warren, Wolf (6)
NAY: (0)

Mr. Doering stated that the Village received notice that an estate amended its return and the Village has to return \$87,791.25 for the purpose of returning previously distributed inheritance funds back to the estate.

LAW COMMITTEE

Mr. Bardach presented and conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2015-3, Ordinance for the Disposition of Real Property.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Mr. Warren reported and shared a letter from Village employees to council thanking the Village for the pay increase approved at last month's meeting. He noted that the Village has a high caliber of employees and thanked them for the letter.

Mr. Warren presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2015-11, Resolution Authorizing Amended Agreement with the Center for Local Government Joint Self-Insurance Benefits Pool. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously. The revision to the agreement puts clarity to the process for authorized and unauthorized withdrawals from the pool.

HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE COMMITTEE

Ms. Wolf reported that the committee has been meeting to address pedestrian safety. She summarized several projects and efforts that have been implemented to support active lifestyles in the Village while improving safety.

PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Ms. Wolf reported that the committee has been meeting to improve Village communications and implement social media. A social media policy has been drafted and outside resources have been consulted. She reported the next meeting date of April 14 at 9 a.m.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lahrmer reported on the Village's snow fighting efforts from the 2014/15 season. He shared the following cost information and noted an average storm cost the Village \$13,000 on average:

	Tons of Salt	Cost
Salt usage this season by village crews	688	\$52,191.68
Salt borrowed from Symmes Twp. and returned 100 tons	101.11	\$7,670.20
Salt borrowed from City of Mason and returned 300 tons plus \$375 Freight	296.78	\$22,888.73
Total tons of salt bought since 10/29/14	1,497.87	\$113,628.41

Mr. Lahrmer shared that Pepsi Beverage Company, located in the Village, will begin manufacturing plastic bottles at its facility rather than having the materials shipped. This economic development project will improve sustainability and productivity by switching to on-site production. Two jobs will be added and the facility will be expanded by 1,500 square feet.

Mr. Lahrmer announced that two candidates were hired from the 76 applications received for the Maintenance Worker/Firefighter position. Jim Swader started on March 23 and David Stone will start on April 27. Both hires are scheduled for fire training school.

Mr. Lahrmer reported the police department hiring process for a police officer should conclude later this month.

Mr. Lahrmer requested council approve the members of the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) which was established for the tax incentive provided in 2013 to Topicz. The TIRC ensures compliance with the incentive agreement. The nominations are for Tom Muething and Bill Doering to serve. Mr. Warren moved to approve the nominations. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Muething reported on the following Environmental Stewardship Committee items:

- The ESC held its third annual event. Paper recycling increased by 10 tons this year. The event was open to non-residents. The event will be held again next year during the March/April time frame.
- April 16 a group of volunteers will meet in the Amberley Green parking lot to continue the Adopt-a-Grove clean up which consists of light maintenance on groups of trees on the property.
- The Village received its Tree City USA award and Growth Award this year. The awards ceremony will be held Friday, April 17 in Wyoming.
- Discounts will be again extended to residents to purchase trees at Natorp's through the Taking Root campaign. Coupons are available at the Municipal Building.
- Arbor Day/Earth Day will be celebrated April 22 at 6 p.m. Residents are invited to assemble in front of the flag pole at the Municipal Building for a proclamation reading. A tree planting demonstration will follow.
- The next meeting of the ESC will be April 27. Topics will include WeThrive! and meadowlands.

Mayor Muething reported that the Village received its 2014 recycling rankings. The Village's recycle rate is 23.1% which places it 9th in Hamilton County among other communities. The rate is a decrease from the 2013 rate which was 26.9%. Mayor Muething encouraged residents to recycle to increase the Village incentive dollars and keep recyclable material from going to the landfill.

Mayor Muething reminded residents of the upcoming celebration for the Village's 75th Anniversary which will occur on August 16. The event is in the planning stages. He noted the monthly E-News has a fun trivia question about the Village's history.

Mayor Muething reminded residents that the Village's property maintenance code requires property owners to maintain their homes and property, i.e. grass cutting, exterior maintenance, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Wallace announced a walk downtown for Multiple Sclerosis on April 25 at 8:30 a.m. that will benefit one of the Village's former police officers—Keith Sowders. He invited folks to sponsor Keith's team and come out to the walk.

Mr. Doering shared condolences for the passing of resident Tom Neuman last week. He stated that Tom was a long-time resident, very passionate about the Village, and he will be missed.

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

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

Mayor Thomas C. Muething