

## LOUDONVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

APRIL 1, 2019

The Loudonville Village Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Village Municipal Building. Answering roll call were Mr. Bill Welsh, Mr. Tom Young, Mr. Jason Van Sickle, Mr. Tom Gallagher, and Mrs. Cathy Lance. Mr. Michael Robinson was absent (excused) from the meeting. Mayor Steve Stricklen presided. Also in attendance were Village Administrator Curt Young, Village Solicitor Thom Gilman, Fiscal Officer Elaine Van Horn, Police Chief Kevin Taylor, Historical Society representatives Gail Hall and Ken Fowler, Times Reporter Jim Brewer, and Loudonville Village residents Brandon Biddinger and Matt Young.

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Stricklen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **CONSENT ITEMS:**

**Council Minutes – March 18, 2019:** The minutes of this regular meeting were presented for approval. Councilman Gallagher moved to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Councilwoman Lance. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes.  
Motion carried.

### **GUESTS:**

Ms. Gail Hall of the local Historical Society presented Council with a paper titled *“Choosing Preservation Over Demolition – A Quick Guide to Benefits & Ways to Promote Preservation.”* Ms. Hall questioned whether Council had obtained an engineering company to examine the property at 144/146 N. Water to determine if it had to be demolished. Mayor Stricklen responded that the Village did have the property inspected by several people and noted that structural damage is clearly visible and that the entire building is in extremely poor condition. Ms. Hall stated that she wanted to come before Council to discuss the preservation of other buildings downtown, encouraging the Mayor and Council to ensure transparency as well as long-term planning before building are considered for demolition. Mayor Stricklen responded that he is opposed to tearing down buildings downtown, but in this case there was no alternative. He asserted that the downtown needs buildings and storefronts, and stated he was disappointed that this building was not able to be saved. He further commented that renovating the building would be cost-prohibitive as the structural damage was too significant. Ms. Hall asked Council to review the handout she distributed, citing practical reasons to save old buildings and what to do with dilapidated buildings as outlined on the handout. Councilman Young commented that there were too many years of neglect with the property at 144/146 N. Water to save it. Ms. Hall asked if there were any regulations in place that would help to protect older structures downtown. Solicitor Gilman responded that while the Fire Department does safety inspections on commercial buildings, the property owners are responsible for the maintenance of their building to ensure the structural integrity. He stated that the Village can become involved if the building is deemed unsafe. Solicitor Gilman also noted that when one-third of the Water Street building collapsed, the Village became aware that the rest of the structure was in poor condition and had to be considered for demolition. He further commented that the Village does not have the resources to inspect every building from top to bottom to determine the structural integrity.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

**Butler Street Project:** Administrator Young reported that the Butler Street Improvements Project would be underway in the next few weeks with the sanitary improvements to be completed first. He noted the paving would be completed after the utility work is done.

**144/146 N. Water Street Building Demolition:** Administrator Young reported that the demolition should begin in the next two weeks. Mayor Stricklen noted that the Fire Department was planning to schedule another training in the building before it is demolished. Chief Taylor noted that the Ashland County Special Response Team has the building reserved for April 3 for training.

**Spring Clean-Up:** Administrator Young reminded that the Rumpke spring cleanup is scheduled for April 17-18.

### **LEGISLATION:**

#### **RESOLUTION 12-2019**

#### **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL OF THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE**

Solicitor Gilman explained that this revision amends the health insurance coverage termination date from the end of the month to the last day of employment with the Village. He noted that this change aligns with the health insurance carrier rules governing termination of coverage.

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EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Resolution No. 12-2019 be declared an emergency measure and that the rules of the law, which require an ordinance to be read on three different days, be suspended with respect to Resolution No. 12-2019. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.  
Motion carried.

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved that Resolution No. 12-2019 be passed as read. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.  
Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 13-2019**

**A RESOLUTION DETERMINING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY IS OBSOLETE AND HAS NO VALUE AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPOSE OF THE SAME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Solicitor Gilman stated that the disposition of Village property is subject to the rules of ORC 721.15. He further noted that there may be some demolition materials from the demolition of the 144/146 N. Water Street property that people may want. He went on to explain that ORC 721.15(C) states that if the property has no value, the legislative authority may discard or salvage that property, citing the bricks or siding as an example.

EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilman Gallagher moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Resolution No. 13-2019 be declared an emergency measure and that the rules of the law, which require an ordinance to be read on three different days, be suspended with respect to Resolution No. 13-2019. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.  
Motion carried.

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilman Gallagher moved that Resolution No. 13-2019 be passed as read. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.  
Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Banner Request – Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District:** Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve a banner request to be displayed from July 1-July 15 in celebration of the District's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Second by Councilwoman Lance. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes.  
Motion carried.

**Park Usage Request – Loudonville Youth Assn:** Councilman Gallagher moved to approve the park usage request for the Riverside & Wally Road ballfields for softball tournaments in June and July. Second by Councilwoman Lance. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes.  
Motion carried.

**Park Usage Request – L-P Ministerial Assn:** Councilwoman Lance moved to approve the use of the NE quadrant of Central Park on May 2, 2019 for the Association's National Day of Prayer event. Second by Councilman Gallagher. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mrs. Lance, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes.  
Motion carried.

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**Certificate of Appreciation – James & Ellen Black:** Mayor Stricklen read aloud a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of their donation of \$5,000 to the Loudonville Police Department to initiate a fundraising endeavor for the acquisition of a K-9 Unit. Chief Taylor noted that the project will cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to establish the K-9 Unit, which he is anticipating will be in 2020. He stated that the Village had a K-9 from 1995 to 2008. He explained that the Police Department has recently been asking both Holmes and Ashland County Sheriff Departments to assist on calls with their K-9 units, noting the need for a K-9 is increasing. Chief Taylor expressed thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Black for their generous donation to get the project started.

**CLAIMS ORDINANCE 2019-07:**

Claims Ordinance 2019-07 was presented for review. Councilman Welsh moved to approve Claims Ordinance 2019-07. Second by Councilman Van Sickle. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.

Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** With no further business to be brought before Council, Councilman Welsh moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:17 PM. Second by Councilman Gallagher. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

Mr. Welsh, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mr. Young, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes.

Motion carried.

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Fiscal Officer

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Mayor