

LOUDONVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

January 7, 2019

The Loudonville Village Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, January 7, 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. Michael Robinson, Mr. Jason Van Sickle, Mr. Tom Gallagher, and Mrs. Cathy Lance. Mayor Steve Stricklen presided. Also in attendance were Village Administrator Curt Young, Fiscal Officer Elaine Van Horn, Village Solicitor Thom Gilman, Police Chief Kevin Taylor, Times Reporter Jim Brewer, Loudonville Village residents Brandon Biddinger and Matt Young, MACF President Brian Hartzell, and area resident Dan Piskur.

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

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE: Councilman Van Sickle moved to elect Councilman Welsh as the 2019 Village Council President Pro Tempore. Second by Councilman Gallagher. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

2019 COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Stricklen distributed the following list of the 2019 Council Committees, noting they would remain the same as 2018:

FINANCE/AUDIT:	Cathy Lance, Chair	Bill Welsh	Michael Robinson
SAFETY:	Bill Welsh, Chair	Jason Van Sickle	Tom Young
STREETS:	Tom Gallagher, Chair	Cathy Lance	Jason Van Sickle
PLANNING & ZONING:	Tom Young, Chair	Michael Robinson	Tom Gallagher
PARKS & BUILDINGS:	Michael Robinson, Chair	Cathy Lance	Tom Young
UTILITIES:	Jason Van Sickle, Chair	Bill Welsh	Tom Gallagher

MAYOR'S 2019 STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS: Mayor Stricklen presented the following address:

As Mayor of the Village of Loudonville, I would like to present this evening the Annual Report summarizing the State of the Village as of today. First of all, let me say that it is a pleasure to give my report from the Village Council Chambers for the first time in many years. With the completion of an ADA accessible ramp, access to ADA restrooms and a repainting of this space in the summer, we were able to make our facility available to all of our residents and return Village business meetings to our former Council Chambers for the first time in many years.

Financial Overview: *Overall, the Village of Loudonville finances were healthy in 2018, with anticipated revenues and budgeted expenditures both trending positively. The General Fund ended the year with an unassigned cash balance of \$573,000. The annual budget is prepared with the focus on maintaining an excellent level of services for Village residents, while at the same time remaining fiscally cautious by controlling growth in operating expenses. Income Tax receipts were steady with an annual total collected of \$1.1 million. Total cash balances for all funds increased slightly from \$2.7 million at the end of 2017 to \$3 million at the end of 2018.*

Police, Fire and Safety: *The Police Department, with its 6 full-time officers, 1 part-time detective and 7 auxiliary officers and 1 clerk, responded to about 2,200 calls for service. The Loudonville-Perrysville School District contracted with Village of Loudonville at the start of the 2018-2019 school year to provide a full-time School Resource Officer, and this new partnership is off to a great start! Our Fire and EMS departments recorded a very active year in responding to about 850 calls for service throughout 2018. As a unit they logged about 320 hours of advanced fire training. Three members received swift water rescue training. The Department was also awarded a FEMA grant in the amount of about \$80,000 for a direct source exhaust system. Fortunately, there were no major structure fires in our first due area, and no civilian or firefighter casualties resulting from fire.*

Village Operation and Improvement Projects: *Major Village improvement projects in 2018 included the completion of Village Water Reservoir #1 Replacement project, and the commencement of the New Maintenance facility on Wally Road. The former 250,000 gallon brick-lined reservoir on South Mt. Vernon Avenue, constructed very early in the 1900's, was replaced with a new 500,000 gallon concrete structure. This is a project that has been high on a Village infrastructure priority list for many years. The new reservoir was funded by a grant for \$500,000 through the Ohio Public Works Commission, and a low interest loan for the balance of the project through the Ohio Water Development Authority. Engineering Associates of Wooster designed the reservoir which was constructed by Kelstin, Inc. of Shelby, Ohio. The total cost of the Reservoir #1 Replacement Project was \$ 1,171,000.*

Another development that has been very exciting to watch is the nearly completed Maintenance Facility at 126 Wally Road. After many years of discussion about the need to construct a new building for our Village Maintenance Department, I am proud to say that the construction phase should be complete in just a few more weeks. It is difficult to find the words to properly express our thanks and tremendous appreciation to the Loudonville American Legion Post #257 for their generous financial support of this project. Without their donations totaling nearly \$126,000 to date for this project alone, the new building would not have been possible. Their support of our community goes beyond this project as they have also contributed nearly \$12,000 for swimming pool improvements. I am planning a public dedication of the new building a few weeks after completion.

The Theatre re-opened to the public in March of 2018, after a number of improvements including the renovation and upgrades to the restrooms, the addition of LED lighting and construction of an ADA ramp that extends from the East parking lot to the second floor of the Theatre and Village Council Chambers. The cost of the improvements was over \$250,000 and funded in large part through a State of Ohio Capital Budget project request by the Village in FY 2016-2017. The \$90,000 lighting project, completed in 2018, was funded separately by a grant of \$48,000 from the Hugo H. and Mabel B. Young Foundation, and also with gifts from the Mohican Area Community Foundation, the Ashland County Community Foundation, Loudonville Rotary Club and other private donors.

Sally Hollenbach, Tracy Cooper and the employees and volunteers of the Theatre continue to work hard at providing quality services and entertainment, and have had great success of late with the production of live shows and events. We are also grateful to the Loudonville Theatre and Arts Committee for their continued support of the Ohio Theatre. Through the efforts of many people, including

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employees both past and present, and the volunteers and financial contributors to the Theatre, it can be truly said that our Theatre is becoming a popular destination and attraction, and a place that we all can be very proud of.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Kristy Spreng, Angie Heffelfinger and the many workers and donors who assisted financially in the addition of a beautiful new children's playground in Riverside Park. Kristy and Angie, who together initiated the "Growing Mohican Families" organization, showed us what can be accomplished when our area residents become involved and have a vision for improving our community. They are currently working on further improvements, and another new play area at Riverside Park in the near future, and are already well on their way to raising the necessary funds.

Infrastructure improvements set to take place this year include our Butler Street Improvements project, and 2019 Loudonville Swimming Pool improvements project.

The construction of the Butler Street Project will replace a section of the Sanitary Sewer east of North Water Street, new water lines, several new storm sewer catch basins and curbing in the project area. The roadway will repaved on Butler Street between North Spring and Union Street. The project is estimated to cost about \$360,000, and is scheduled to begin this spring. OPWC is providing a grant of \$180,000 toward the project.

The Swimming Pool is set for a complete replacement of the concrete deck surrounding the main pool in 2019. Items also scheduled are the replacement of guard chairs, ladders and diving boards, and the addition of ADA appliances including a chair lift. Several doors and windows in the Pool's Office and Bath house will also be replaced. We received funding in the amount of \$75,000 from the State of Ohio FY 2018-2019 Capital Budget fund, and assistance from the Hugo and Mabel Young Foundation, University-Kettering Samaritan Hospital Foundation and the Milton and Beulah Young Foundation. The project is expected to cost \$ 160,000.

***Closing Remarks:** As in previous years, I would like to close with a few comments about our Village employees, and the staff of every department within our Village. Our safety forces, Village Maintenance and Utilities, Business Office and employees of the Theatre, Swimming Pool and Cemetery have again done an exceptional job in providing quality services to our community. I believe I can speak for Council and myself in saying that we appreciate the tremendous jobs you are doing, and look forward to working with you in 2019 and beyond. Thank you again, Council, for your continued cooperation and support... and I look forward to working with you in this new year as well.*

CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Minutes – December 17, 2018: 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; Mr. Robinson, yes. Motion carried.

Monthly Financial Report – December 2018: Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve the December Financial Report. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Mayor's Court Report – December 2018: Councilman Van Sickle moved to accept the December Mayor's Court Report. Second by Councilman Robinson. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

GUESTS:

Mohican Area Community Fund: MACF President Brian Hartzell updated Council on the status of the 2019 campaign, noting that as of this date they had reached just over \$89,500 of their \$90,000 goal. He reported that donations from the campaign, which started last July, will help to support 34 local charities and other nonprofit organizations that benefit the community. He reported that there are over 400 donors who are enrolled in payroll deduction through their employer, noting that the Village of Loudonville has several employees who participate in the payroll deduction and expressing appreciation for their donations. Councilman Welsh commented that as a former President of MACF, he understood how difficult it is to reach their goals and further commended Mr. Hartzell for the time and effort they put into their successful campaign that benefits so many people in the community. Mayor Stricklen concurred and asked Council to consider donating \$500 to help the Mohican Area Community Fund reach their goal. Councilman Young moved to approve the donation of \$500 to the MACF. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS: None.

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LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION 1-2019

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019 OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR WHICH IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED, BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Solicitor Gilman stated that this annual resolution is required by state code so that the Village may sell unused property throughout the year by internet auction.

EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Resolution No. 1-2019 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. 1-2019. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved that Resolution No. 1-2019 be passed as read. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

RESOLUTION 2-2019

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AGENCY FUND 9904 TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOUDONVILLE FIREWORKS DISPLAY FUND FOR THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS TO BE SET ASIDE, ACCUMULATED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE.

Upon question by Councilman Young, Solicitor Gilman explained that persons, entities or organizations who wish to donate to the fireworks display in the Village could do so through this Agency Fund. He explained that an agency fund is custodial in nature and that all funds received would be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce who organizes the fireworks display in the Village each year.

EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Resolution No. 2-2019 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. 2-2019. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved that Resolution No. 1-2019 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. Robinson, yes; Mr. Gallagher, yes; Mrs. Lance, yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

LED Stop Signs at Main & Mt. Vernon: Council reviewed an email from Ms. Julie Cichello, ODOT District 3 Traffic Engineer regarding the Village's request to replace the current stop signs with LED stop signs. Councilman Gallagher stated he did not agree with Ms. Cichello's comments that she was "*not sure the installation of LED stop signs will address the existing crash patterns.*" Chief Taylor stated that he was in favor of the LED stop signs, noting that he has a private donor willing to assist with the cost. Mayor Stricklen referred to Ms. Cichello's comments that drivers associate overhead flashers and LED stop signs as 4-way stop control, with Councilman Gallagher stating that he has witnessed drivers cruise through the stop sign at least once a week. He further stated that he feels the stop bars are too far back. Mayor Stricklen questioned whether the "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" sign could be LED. Administrator Young stated that ODOT suggested converting the intersection to a 4-way stop. Councilman Young asked about the possibility of a stop light, with Administrator Young noting that ODOT has turned down the request multiple times in the past. Chief

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Taylor stated that he didn't think ODOT would approve a traffic light since they only have four to five accidents per year at the intersection. Administrator Young suggested a formal written request for a traffic light from the Village Council. Administrator Young noted he would draft the letter for Council signatures and would include language regarding the high traffic times. Councilman Gallagher stated that Council could hold off on purchasing the LED stop signs until a response is received from ODOT regarding a traffic light.

NEW BUSINESS:

Five-year Plan: Councilman Young suggested Council put together a 5-year plan. Mayor Stricklen asked that Administrator Young first meet with Department Heads to develop a list of projects they anticipate.

CLAIMS ORDINANCE 2019-01:

Claims Ordinance 2019-01 was presented for review. Councilman Young questioned the purchase of a new snow plow, with Administrator Young and Fiscal Officer Van Horn asserting that the capital expense was included in the appropriations. Solicitor Gilman reminded Council that Administrator Young has the authority to make appropriated purchases without Council approval as provided by the Ohio Revised Code. Councilman Welsh moved to approve Claims Ordinance 2019-01. Second by Councilman Gallagher. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADJOURN: With no further business to be brought before Council, Councilwoman Lance moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:35 PM. Second by Councilman Van Sickle. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Fiscal Officer

Mayor