

LOUDONVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

June 4, 2018

The Loudonville Village Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, June 4, 2018 at 6 p.m. at the Loudonville Fire Station. Answering roll call were Mr. Bill Welsh, Mrs. Traci Cooper, Mr. Tom Young, Mr. Michael Robinson, Mr. Jason Van Sickle and Mr. Tom Gallagher. Mayor Steve Stricklen presided. Also in attendance were Village Administrator Curt Young, Fiscal Officer Elaine Van Horn, Police Chief Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief Mike Carey, Pool Manager Cherryl Young, Legion representative Jim Danner, former Mayor Stewart Zody, Village resident Dee Hinkle and Times Reporter Jim Brewer.

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

CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Minutes – May 21, 2018: The minutes of this regular meeting were presented for approval. Councilwoman Cooper moved to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

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

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

Mayor's Court Report – May 2018: Councilwoman Cooper moved to accept the May Mayor's Court Report. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

GUESTS:

American Legion Post 257: Legion member Jim Danner presented Village Pool Manager Cherryl Young a check for \$3,000.00 to be used for free youth swims every Tuesday at the pool for children in the community. Mayor Stricklen thanked Mr. Danner for the Legion's continued support of worthwhile programs to benefit the youth in the area.

Ashland County Land Bank – Commissioner Denny Bittle: Commissioner Bittle presented Council with an overview of the new Ashland County Land Bank program, noting that Mayor Stricklen serves on the Board representing southern Ashland County. He stated that the land bank is a quasi-governmental entity 501(c) that has several statutory purposes including to facilitate the reutilization of vacant, abandoned and tax-foreclosed real property. He noted that once the properties are controlled by the Land Bank, they can be demolished or rehabilitated to be resold, with the intent to boost that particular property value as well as neighboring property values. He reported that the City of Ashland and the Ashland County Commissioners office each contributed \$15,000 for startup costs. He stated that the Ohio Revised Code permits the Land Bank to receive 5% of DTAC funds (Delinquent Tax and Assessment Collection) without permission of any other entities whose share of the DTAC funds would then be reduced. He further commented that while the Ashland County Land Bank can collect up to 5% without the approval of the other entities, the Land Bank Board was hoping to receive support of the program from the school boards, municipalities and townships. He noted that Land Bank Director Hal Sheaffer was in the process of meeting with local officials in the county to create a list of potential properties throughout the county that would qualify and benefit from the program.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Reservoir Project: Administrator Young reported that the project demolition phase is complete and the site preparation is continuing.

LEGISLATION:

**ORDINANCE 30-2018
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ANNUAL INCREASES IN THE WATER AND SEWER BASE
RATES OF THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE**

This was the third reading of Ordinance 30-2018.

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ADOPTION VOTE

Councilwoman Cooper moved that Ordinance 30-2018 be passed as read. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ORDINANCE 33-2018

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilwoman Cooper moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Ordinance No. 33-2018 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 Ordinance No. 33-2018. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilwoman Cooper moved that Ordinance No. 33-2018 be passed as read. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ORDINANCE 34-2018

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 478 TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE.

Ordinance 34-2018 was presented on a First Reading.

Councilman Young questioned what had transpired that initiated the drafting of Ordinance 34-2018 regarding slow moving vehicles as he had not heard about it prior to receiving it in his packet. Councilman Welsh stated he was approached by several residents who were asking Council to consider adopting regulations to allow golf carts within the Village. Councilman Welsh noted he met with Police Chief Taylor as well as Village Solicitor Gilman to review the existing laws and had asked Solicitor Gilman to prepare a draft ordinance. Solicitor Gilman noted that new state statute exists that authorizes and governs slow moving vehicles, noting that the requirements include registration plates and safety inspections among other regulations. Councilman Young expressed his concerns regarding potential safety issues with allowing slow-moving golf carts on Village streets, Solicitor Gilman noting they would be permitted only on streets with a speed limit less than 35 mph. Chief Taylor commented that there may be campers who may want to drive their carts into town, but they would have to stay off the state routes and off the bike path to do so. Councilman Robinson noted he was apprehensive with the possibility of having slow moving vehicles on the Village streets. Solicitor Gilman stated that the state statute allows for the approval to be granted at the local government level, giving communities the choice to decide if they will permit them using the state guidelines. Councilman Young asked if a rental business could be opened to rent golf carts if the ordinance is passed, with Solicitor Gilman stating a rental business could be established. Councilman Van Sickle commended Solicitor Gilman for drafting what he felt was a well-written proposed new chapter of the codified ordinances, further noting he would like to talk with local business owners to get their opinion on the matter. Council concurred that the ordinance should be read on three readings to get community input.

OLD BUSINESS:

Property Concerns: Councilman Gallagher questioned the status of the complaint from resident Dee Hinkle from the previous Council meeting concerning the condition of her neighboring property. Solicitor Gilman stated that the Police Department was involved in a current investigation of that property and that he couldn't comment further on the status due to the active investigation. Solicitor Gilman noted that he met with Chief Taylor and Administrator Young to discuss how to best approach these problems and what follow-up procedures should be put in place. Solicitor Gilman further noted that the Village has issued citations, fines have been given by the Ashland Municipal Court, and generally some improvements are made by the offenders. He stated that the Village has been dealing with three or four similar properties, noting that the

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ordinance allows for repetitive tickets with escalating fines. Ms. Hinkle questioned why the cases are sent to Ashland Municipal Court instead of being heard in the Mayor's Court. Solicitor Gilman firmly stated that decisions on what court a defendant is cited into is never based on fine money. He also stated that when a defendant pleads not guilty in the Mayor's Court, those cases are transferred to the Ashland Municipal Court. Councilman Gallagher questioned if the Village ordinances were strong enough and if the owner could be held responsible. Solicitor Gilman stated that it is possible for either to be cited depending on the issues. Councilman Welsh questioned whether it would be better to revise the zoning laws and enforce them through zoning rather than criminally. Solicitor Gilman stated that zoning violations aren't as easy to prosecute and that the police officers are better equipped to handle investigations than a zoning officer. Upon question by Councilman Young regarding the amount of the penalties, Solicitor Gilman noted that many violations are minor misdemeanors, with some escalation to M-4's and M-3's where the penalties are higher. He further commended Ashland Municipal Court Judge Good for encouraging the defendant to make improvements and then imposing the sentencing based on the improvements.

Parking Lot Improvements: Councilman Young reported that the Parks & Buildings Committee met to discuss the proposed improvements to the parking lots at Riverside Park and at the Pool/Park Complex. He stated that Administrator Young was going to gather additional pricing based on the areas discussed by the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chamber of Commerce Fireworks Donation Request: Councilwoman Cooper moved to contribute \$500 to the Chamber of Commerce Fireworks Fund. Second by Councilman Young. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

McMullen Parents Assn. Pool Request: Councilwoman Cooper moved to approve the request to waive the pool rental fee for the McMullen School Parents Association third grade pool party on August 8, 2018 from 6 to 8 PM. Second by Councilman Van Sickle. A roll call vote upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

MACF Park Usage Request: Councilwoman Cooper moved to approve the request from MACF to use the SE quadrant of Central Park on Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 8 AM to 1 PM for the outdoor activities associated with the annual Health & Agency Fair. Second by Councilman Gallagher. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

LEO Club Recognition: Mayor Stricklen read a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Mayor and Council to be presented to the Loudonville LEO Club for their donation of time and materials to improve the landscaping at the Youth Building.

CLAIMS ORDINANCE 2018-11:

Claims Ordinance 2018-11 was presented for review. Councilman Gallagher moved to approve Claims Ordinance 2018-11. Second by Councilwoman Cooper. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADJOURN: With no further business to be brought before Council, Councilman Welsh moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:40 PM. Second by Councilwoman Cooper. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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