

LOUDONVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

August 5, 2019

The Loudonville Village Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, August 5, 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, and Mr. Tom Gallagher. Mrs. Cathy Lance 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, Fire Captain Brad Dilgard, Maintenance Superintendent John Burkhart, Village residents Branden Biddinger and Dennis Schaefer, Times Reporter Jim Brewer, and area residents Dan Piskur, Emily Heffelfinger and Lisa Sage.

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

CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Minutes – July 15, 2019: The minutes of this regular meeting were presented for approval. Councilman Welsh moved to accept the minutes as presented. 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, abstain.
Motion carried.

GUESTS:

Hoyer Street resident Dennis Schaefer introduced himself to Council and expressed concerns regarding vacant houses in the Village, noting there were six in his neighborhood alone. He noted he was concerned about the conditions of the vacant homes and asked if there were any building code violations that could be addressed. He stated he had reviewed Village ordinances to determine if there were existing regulations governing the exterior condition of homes including the roof and gutters. Administrator Young responded, noting Chapter 1460 of the Village Codified Ordinances addresses conditions that would be considered unsafe as well as other issues such as odors and high weeds. He further advised Mr. Schaefer to contact the Police Department to report his specific concerns of potential violations. Mr. Schaefer also expressed concerns regarding the frequent visits made by the Loudonville Police to his neighbor's home, noting he would like to be more informed of the circumstances surrounding the police calls. Mayor Stricklen thanked Mr. Schaefer for attending the meeting to share his concerns and noted he would follow-up with them.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Backhoe Purchase: Administrator Young presented a quote for \$96,420.24 from Southeastern Equipment Company for the purchase of a new Case 580SN 4WD backhoe at state term pricing, budgeted from multiple departments. He noted that he received an estimate of \$24,000 for a trade-in of the old backhoe, but decided with Department Heads to keep the old one as a spare, advising he could get more for it on the GovDeals website should they wish to sell it in the future. Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve the purchase of the new backhoe from Southeastern Equipment at a cost of \$96,420.24. 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.
Motion carried.

Ford F-150 Truck Purchase: Administrator Young reported that previously-approved purchase of a new 2019 truck for the water/wastewater department had to be revisited by Council as the 2019 model was no longer available to order. He presented a new quote for a 2020 F-150 from Cal Hans Ford in the amount of \$27,157 for Council consideration, which he noted was \$1,000 more than the quote for the 2019 model. Councilman Welsh moved to approve the purchase of the 2020 F-150 from Cal Hans Ford for \$27,157. Second by Councilman Young. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Swimming Pool Signage: Administrator Young presented several samples and quotes for signage at the swimming pool, including a freestanding sign and letters on the building. He noted that the quote for the freestanding sign was estimated at \$2,100 for a 21 square foot sign. He also noted a 30 square foot sign would be estimated at about \$3,000 or more. He noted that the proposed building lettering would cost approximately \$600. Councilmen Gallagher and Van Sickle noted they liked the lettering on the building. Mayor Stricklen suggested the Parks & Buildings Committee meet to discuss the project, with Administrator Young suggesting it be placed in the 2020 budget.

Swimming Pool Closure: Administrator Young reported that the pool would be closing on Sunday, August 18.

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LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE 27-2019

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

EMERGENCY MEASURE VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved to suspend the rules and Councilman Welsh seconded that Ordinance No. 27-2019 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 Ordinance No. 27-2019. 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.
Motion carried.

ADOPTION VOTE

Councilman Van Sickle moved that Ordinance No. 27-2019 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.
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

West Main & Mt. Vernon Avenue Traffic Study: Council discussed the written report completed by ODOT, which includes a recommendation that the intersection be changed to an all-way stop. The **Implementation Plan** as written in the report is as follows:

Install an all-way stop and reduce the approach lanes from two to one. The Advantages include:

- 1.) *Increased pedestrian safety by providing fewer number of lanes to cross and forcing all approaches to stop prior to entering the intersection.*
- 2.) *Improved turning radius for right turning trucks. When reducing to one lane on the approaches, the lane would be moved away from the curb, allowing trucks to swing slightly wider during their turn.*
- 3.) *Removes the left turning vehicle blocking the thru/right driver on the Mt. Vernon approaches.*

Councilman Gallagher questioned why ODOT would be opposed to installing LED stop signs on Mt. Vernon Avenue and maintaining the flashing yellow for Main Street traffic. Mayor Stricklen, Councilman Welsh, and Councilman Young expressed agreement with the ODOT report that a 4-way stop might be the best option for the intersection. Administrator Young commented that it could be difficult to stop coming down the hill during the winter. Councilman Gallagher suggested installing the flashing stop signs on Mt. Vernon Avenue as a first attempt to alleviate the before making it a 4-way stop. Street Maintenance Superintendent Burkhart questioned whether there would be any liability concerns should the Village not heed ODOT's written recommendation based on their study, with Solicitor Gilman stating he was not concerned with a liability issue. Council discussed the stop bars that are currently painted on Main Street at the intersection, with Superintendent Burkhart noting the State painted them. Superintendent Burkhart also questioned who would pay for the changes to the intersection, including changing the approach lanes from two to one. Council agreed to have the Safety Committee meet with Police Chief Taylor to review the report and make a recommendation to Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

Street Improvements: Councilman Gallagher reported that the Street Committee had met with Administrator Young to discuss possible paving projects including North Jefferson Street and Bustle between South Adams and South Water. He asked Council to consider what paving projects they might see as a priority.

Mohican 5K Sponsorship: Councilman Welsh moved to contribute \$250 to the 2019 12th Annual Mohican 5K event sponsored by the Loudonville-Mohican Area Chamber of Commerce. Second by Councilman Van Sickle. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Sign Permit – Mohican Area Community Fund: Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve the MACF sign permit for their sign to be displayed from September 1 to December 31 in the NE quadrant of Central Park adjacent to the flagpole. 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.
Motion carried.

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Park Usage Request – RCDV Safe Haven: Councilman Welsh moved to approve the park usage request for the SE fountain quadrant of Central Park for the display of Safe Haven’s Silent Witness Project awareness event with red silhouettes for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Second by Councilman Young. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

DONOR RECOGNITION:

Loudonville Fire Department Inc: Fire Captain Brad Dilgard reported that the Loudonville Fire Department Inc. had received donations from the Hugo & Mabel Young Foundation and from the American Legion to purchase a Polaris Ranger to transport patients in rugged terrain such as the State Park. He reported they also purchased a thermal imaging camera and squad coats. He noted that the Ranger was purchased from and equipped by Valley ATV, and further stated that the UTV will be a great asset to the Department. He explained that rescues in the state park might take 8-10 responders to carry a victim out by hand, and that the Ranger will make those types of rescues much easier and require fewer firefighters. Mayor Stricklen thanked the Loudonville Fire Department Inc. for their in-kind donation to the Village.

Milton & Beulah Young Foundation: Mayor Stricklen read a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Mayor and Council to be presented to the Milton & Beulah Young Foundation for their donation of \$5,000 toward the purchase of an ADA Tread Step Unit for the Pool Improvements Project.

Ashland County Community Foundation 2019 Distributions: Mayor Stricklen reported that the Village had received the annual distribution checks from the endowment funds established by Sue Banks for the maintenance of the southeast quadrant of Central Park in the amount of \$513, by James & Ellen Black for training or equipment for the Police and Fire Departments in the amount of \$400 each, and by the Progress Club for the Central Park Fountain maintenance in the amount of \$1,006. Mayor Stricklen thanked those individuals for the generous endowment funds they established with ACCF to benefit the Village for many years in the future.

CLAIMS ORDINANCE 2019-15:

Claims Ordinance 2019-15 was presented for review. Councilman Welsh moved to approve Claims Ordinance 2019-15. 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.
Motion carried.

ADJOURN: With no further business to be brought before Council, Councilman Van Sickle moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:36 PM. Second by Councilman Welsh. 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.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor