

LOUDONVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

November 4, 2019

Loudonville Village Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, November 4, 2019 at 6 p.m. at the Loudonville Village Hall council chambers. Mayor Stricklen called the meeting to order and answering roll call were Mr. Bill Welsh, Mr. Tom Young, Mr. Michael Robinson, Mr. Jason Van Sickle, Mr. Tom Gallagher, and Mrs. Cathy Lance. Also in attendance at the meeting were Village Administrator Curt Young, Assistant Fiscal Officer Jane Hollinger, Village Solicitor Thom Gilman, Police Captain Brian McCauley, Maintenance Superintendent John Burkhart, Fire Chief Mike Carey, Fire Captain Brad Dilgard, Planning Commission members Tom Motz and Carl Smith, residents Brandon Biddinger, Matt Young, Dee Hinkle, Rob & Ashley Thurber, John & Janice Eitelgeorge, and Loudonville Times Reporter Jim Brewer.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – Request for rezoning of Ashland County Property ID C09-032-C-0018-00: Mayor Stricklen distributed packets for Council review regarding a request to rezone 3.373 acres on South Market Street from R-C (Residential Commercial) to C-2 (General Commercial). Solicitor Gilman noted that the Loudonville Planning Commission will schedule a meeting to review the request and will present a recommendation to Council at the November 18, 2019 Council meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Minutes – October 21, 2019 Regular Meeting: Councilman Gallagher moved the minutes be approved as presented. Second by Councilman Van Sickle. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Council Minutes – October 28, 2019 Special Meeting (Trinity Church Community Round Table):

Councilman Welsh moved the minutes be approved as presented. Second by Councilwoman Lance. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

GUESTS:

John & Janice Eitelgeorge of 201 S. Market Street: Mr. and Mrs. Eitelgeorge addressed Council concerning issues they are experiencing with their sanitary sewer. They stated that they have problems with wastewater backing up into their home. They noted they had a camera run into the lateral line that runs under the street and found that there was broken tile, and questioned whether the patching of Bustle Street to repair potholes could have broken the tile. Maintenance Superintendent Burkhart stated that the street repair would not have caused the broken tile as they only go down several inches. Mrs. Eitelgeorge expressed frustration that they have not been able to find a contractor who was willing to present a quote to repair their lateral line. Solicitor Gilman noted that the Village could not do the work or recommend a contractor; however, they could present her with a list of contractors who might be able to give them a proposal.

Majestic Mohican Garden Club – Central Park Enhancements Project: Majestic Mohican Garden Club representative Ashley Thurber presented Council with an overview of the volunteer-based organization, noting their goal is to beautify the downtown parks and walkways. She noted that the benefits of the club include creating social activities, volunteer opportunities, educational programming, and improving green space in Central Park. She reported that she is working with the Chamber of Commerce and have received several donations to date. Mrs. Thurber distributed a project they would like to undertake in 2020 to improve the NE quadrant of Central Park that includes the stage. She explained that the proposal includes adding flowers, solar lights, renovated benches, new picnic area, dog bag dispensers and a few new trees. Upon question by Solicitor Gilman, Mrs. Thurber noted that the objects placed would be donated to the Village. Mayor Stricklen expressed appreciation to Mrs. Thurber for her dedication to maintaining the flowers downtown over the summer as well as her vision for the future. Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve the proposal as presented. 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.

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DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Leaf Pickup: Administrator Young reported that leaf pickup is underway.

LEGISLATION:

FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE 36-2019

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING BASE SALARIES FOR THE VARIOUS PERSONNEL AND DEPARTMENTS FOR THE VILLAGE OF LOUDONVILLE, OHIO, DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020 AND THEREAFTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance Committee Chairwoman Lance suggested three readings on the ordinance, noting she wanted to review a few items again with Fiscal Officer Van Horn. Councilman Young questioned the rate for the part-time Street Maintenance Worker II, noting he thought \$15.30 per hour was too high. Maintenance Superintendent Burkhart noted that the part-time rate was added when Roy Wilson was employed part-time. Councilman Gallagher commented that he figured the full-time raises totaled about \$30,000 per year and questioned whether the Village could afford the increases.

OLD BUSINESS:

Swimming Pool Use Agreement – Swim Team: Councilman Young questioned the status on the swim team pool use situation. Solicitor Gilman responded that he has been working on the draft pool use agreement but has not been advised by the Parks & Buildings Committee that they have a meeting scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outdoor Wood Furnaces: Councilman Young reported that the Planning & Zoning Committee met before the meeting to review the proposed ordinance governing outdoor wood furnaces prepared by Solicitor Gilman. He stated that the committee was in favor of presenting the proposed ordinance to Council at the November 18, 2019 Council meeting.

Pool Equipment – Swim Team: Councilman Young reported that he was contacted by Swim Team Coach Emily Spreng who asked if the swim team could borrow the kick boards that are owned by the Village, are stored at the pool, and are used for summer swimming lessons. Councilwoman Lance stated she was not opposed to loaning the kick boards to the swim team. It was suggested that a record of their removal from the pool be signed by Mrs. Spreng. Council took no formal action.

North Market Street Railroad Crossing: Councilman Van Sickle expressed concern with the poor condition of the railroad crossing on North Market Street. Maintenance Superintendent Burkhart noted that Norfolk Southern had patched the crossing with blacktop. Solicitor Gilman stated that the Village could issue another notice to Norfolk Southern Railroad, which gives them 30 days to address the complaint, noting if they do not respond the Village can notify PUCO.

Employee Health Insurance Renewal: Administrator Young reported that the Village has received the 2020 health insurance renewal quote, which includes a 9.57 percent increase. The policy renewal was reviewed by the Finance Committee on October 28, 2019. Mayor Stricklen noted the Finance Committee also discussed increasing the deductibles to reduce the premiums that would offset the increase. Councilwoman Lance and Councilman Gallagher commented that they thought the rate increase was reasonable and were in favor of keeping the policy deductibles the same as 2019. Councilwoman Lance moved to approve the 2020 health insurance renewal at the 2019 level of benefits. 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. Robinson, yes; Mr. Van Sickle, yes. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION: Mayor Stricklen read a Certificate of Recognition to be presented to Mr. Michael Smith, recognizing his fourteen years of service on the Loudonville Planning Commission. Mr. Smith resigned from the Planning Commission effective October 14, 2019.

CLAIMS ORDINANCE 2019-21:

Claims Ordinance 2019-21 was presented for approval. Councilman Van Sickle moved to approve Claims Ordinance 2019-21. Second by Councilman Welsh. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

ADJOURN: With no further business to be brought before Council, Councilman Young moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 PM. Second by Councilwoman Lance. A roll call upon said motion resulted as follows:

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

Fiscal Officer

Mayor