

REGULAR COUNCIL

MAY 13, 2015

Solicitor Michele Stuck gave the Oath of Office to Sheri Johnson. Council members welcomed Sheri Johnson.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Patrick, Steve Hadzinsky, Tom Hardesty, Chris Anderson, Sheri Johnson, Jeff Kaiser, Becky Harrington, Solicitor Michele Stuck, Clerk Nancy Baldwin, Chief Anthony Milicia, Pam and Rick Collins, Diana and Tim Christopher, Christopher and Jenette Perme, Julie and Keith Whan, Eric and Joleen Clelland, Eric Dunn, David and Patricia Cooper, Bill Neimeth, Tammy Neimeth, Collen Kaeralldh, Chris Sanchez, Valorie McCullough, Dan Pompoli from the Record Courier, Chris Gerez from the Villager, Phil Brittan and parents from Hotstove Baseball League, Deborah Wordell and other interested guests.

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kaiser to approve the Minutes of the April 8, 2015 as presented by the Clerk.

VOTE AYES-Hadzinsky, Hardesty, Anderson, Kaiser

ABSTAIN-Harrington, Johnson (not present at last meeting).

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to pay the bills.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

A lengthy discussion was held with Phil Brittan and parents of the Hotstove Baseball League. At issue was the status of scheduling for the use of Village's fields for Hotstove and the new Garrettsville Sandlot League Teams. Parents from Hotstove questioned Council as to why they had to adjust their set games and practice schedule to allow time for a new league this late in the year. Steve Hadzinsky explained how he met with both league representatives to discuss a fair and equitable way to share the fields. Solicitor Michele Stuck agreed that as a community group the new team has every legal right to field time the same as Hot Stove and currently there is no set deadline as to when scheduling requests have to be filed. Questions were then posed about Hotstove property and whether or not they had to share things that had been purchased by Hotstove monies. Solicitor Michele Stuck clarified that the Village owns anything permanently attached to Village property, even if Hotstove monies purchased it. Moveable equipment remains the property of Hot Stove and should be removed or locked up after their use for protection. Solicitor Michele stuck went on to say that the new Sandlot Teams had not submitted correct insurance information or waivers needed before they can use the fields. Council agreed to give Sandlot League one week for the necessary forms to be submitted or they would forfeit their field time until next season. Documents were to be submitted to the Village Clerk in one week by 4:00 PM. Steve Hadzinsky said he would notify Sandlot of the deadline.

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Hardesty to give the Garrettsville Sandlot one week to have insurance forms and waivers for all players to the Village Clerk on May 20, 2015 by 4:00 PM or forfeit the use of the fields.

VOTE AYES-Unanimous

A lengthy discussion was held on the Police Department cutting their budget by \$100,000.00 from their 2015 budget. Department police officers including Chief Tony Milicia, and several residents had questions about the cuts and how the Village got into this financial position. Steve Hadzinsky has been asking Council for a while to acknowledge the deficit spending that had been going on for several years. Tom Hardesty explained that it wasn't until he sat with the Village Clerk and went through the budget line by line, then looked to the 2015 projections for income that he realized there was a significant deficit. The Village has budgeted \$1.89 million for 2015 only \$1.69 million in revenue. A significant portion of the budget, almost half, is appropriated to the Police Department. Council therefore felt half of the \$200,000.00 shortfall should come the department. Police Chief Milicia and Lt. Tim Christopher had presented plans for cuts at the Safety Committee Meeting. There were several options presented which included cutting dispatch, the Drug Task Force, annual longevity pay, janitorial services and paying higher healthcare deductions. However, neither Milicia nor Christopher's plans included not hiring the vacancy opened by when Officer David Firtik resigned to take a position with the Ravenna Police Department. Council President Tom Hardesty suggested not filling the position would have a low impact for the department and would save the necessary funds. The officers and residents in attendance had a different point of view. Several of the officers in attendance explained how important the current staffing was to the department and how not filling the vacancy would be detrimental.

Becky Harrington suggested that Council approve an increase of 2.5% for all employees for their healthcare deductions and suspending longevity for all employees for one year. Those employees that have already been paid longevity would not get longevity in the following year. Decrease the off-site training for officers, a change in patrolling activities, charging for extra security for events at the school, cuts in janitorial services, and selling equipment that is no longer needed.

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to approve the cuts and hire a new full-time officer to fill Dave Firtiks position.

VOTE AYES—Hadzinsky, Anderson, Johnson, Kaiser, Harrington

NAY-Hardesty

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Hardesty to suspend the rules that ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-18 be placed on second reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Kaiser, seconded Harrington to approve Ordinance 2015-18 An ordinance amending Chapter 155 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Garrettsville regarding the Village Community Reinvestment Areas.

VOTE AYES-Hadzinsky, Hardesty, Anderson, Kaiser, Harrington

ABSTAIN-Johnson

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Kaiser to suspend the rule that ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-20 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES-Unanimous

Moved by Hadzinsky, seconded by Kaiser to approve Ordinance 2015-20 An ordinance enacting "Appendix 1" of Ordinance 2009-67 the "Village of Garrettsville, Portage County, Ohio Employee Handbook", relating to the Ohio State Auditor's Fraud Reporting System.

VOTE A YES-Unanimous

Moved Anderson, seconded by Harrington to suspend the rule that ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-21 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES-Unanimous

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kaiser to approve Ordinance 2015-21 An ordinance accepting an easement for water line purposes from David and Patricia Cooper.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Kaiser to suspend the rule that ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-23 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Harrington to approve Ordinance 2015-23 An ordinances authorizing the Mayor to execute a Water Main Easement and agreement to partially abandon existing Water Main Easement between the Village and David and Patricia Cooper.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Kaiser, seconded by Hardesty to enter into Executive Session for reasons of personnel compensation.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Clerk Nancy Baldwin leaves during Executive Session.

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Hardesty to end Executive Session and return to Regular Council.

VOTE AYES -Unanimous

Clerk Nancy Baldwin returns to Regular Council.

Ordinance 2015-22 An ordinance establishing the compensation of the clerk-Treasurer for the electoral term commencing on April 1, 2016. Read on first reading.

Tom Hardesty asked Council to authorize submitting an application for a CDBG in the amount of \$75000.00.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Kaiser to adjourn.
VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk