

PUBLIC HEARING

JULY 15, 2015

The Public Hearing 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, Anthony Milicia, Keith Whan, Julie Whan, Pamela Wilke, Sabrina Wilke, Joleen Clelland, Teri Eiermann, Christine Morris, Bob Matson, Valorie McCullough, Judi Craver, Glenn Craver, Michael Paul, Vickie Paul, Debbie Ellison, Jesse Ellison, Dick Bonner, Tom DiLoreto, Chris Gerez from the Villager, Susan Miktiarian, Kevin Goodwin, Eric Dunn, Betsey Dunn, Brad Cromes, David Anderson and other interested guests.

Mayor Rick Patrick called the Public Hearing to order.

Ordinance 2015-34, Proposed 2016 Village Tax Budget.

Council President Tom Hardesty asked if there were any comments. No comments.

Moved Hardesty, seconded by Kaiser to close the Public Hearing and begin Regular Council.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

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, Anthony Milicia, Keith Whan, Julie Whan, Pamela Wilke, Sabrina Wilke, Joleen Clelland, Teri Eiermann, Christine Morris, Bob Matson, Valorie McCullough, Judi Craver, Glenn Craver, Michael Paul, Vickie Paul, Debbie Ellison, Jesse Ellison, Dick Bonner, Tom Dilloreto, Chris Gerez from the Villager, Susan Miktiarian, Kevin Goodwin, Eric Dunn, Betsey Dunn, Brad Cromes, David Anderson and other interested guests.

Moved by Kaiser, seconded by Anderson to approve the minutes of June 10, 2015.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Kaiser, seconded by Hadzinsky to pay the bills.

VOTE AYES-Unanimous

Revenue, Expenditure, Cash Balance and Income Tax Reports were reviewed.

Revenue for the Village on the most recent report is up \$40,000.00 over last year's numbers. Council President Tom Hardesty credits cracking down on non-filers for the improvement. Hardesty stated that two years ago there were 510 know non-filers, and currently that number is down to approximately 240. Hardesty estimates that the improved compliance effort will yield a \$60,000.00 increase in revenue over last year.

Steve Hadzinsky said we want a carryover balance of \$218,000.00 for the 2016.

Proposed Ordinance 2015-22 was up for third reading. This ordinance had been discussed both May and June's Council meeting during executive session. If passed, this would establish compensation for the Clerk-Treasurer of the Village for the next term in office beginning April 1, 2016. Currently the position pays \$53,000.00 per year. The ordinance would allow for a 2% increase annually beginning April 2017 through March 31, 2020.

Councilwoman Becky Harrington stated that she wasn't at the last meeting for the discussion but she didn't think there should be any increase in pay. A resident in the audience asked council how they could consider giving a raise when they are currently running in deficit. He also commented that the \$53,000.00 currently paid for the Clerk-Treasurer position was above the average working family's income in Garrettsville. The resident suggested that council should reconsider giving longevity raises for employees as well. Solicitor Michele Stuck commented that it is uncomfortable to discuss the topic in open session and that it is usually discussed in Executive Session. Council agreed to further discuss the proposed ordinance in executive session at the end of the meeting. (After Executive Session Council reconvened and voted to freeze the Clerk-Treasurer salary for the next term.)

Ordinance 2015-24, An ordinance establishing the appointed position of Village Fiscal Officer in accordance with the provision of Ohio Revised Code Section 733.626, abolishing the elected position of the Village Clerk-Treasurer.

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to make the appointment of the Fiscal Officer effective 2020 and amend Section 6 to remove emergency.

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to suspend the rule that Ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-24 be placed on third reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to approve Ordinance 2015-24 as amended.  
Ordinance 2015-24 An ordinance establishing the appointed position of Village Fiscal Officer in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 733.262 and abolishing the Elected Position of the Village Clerk-Treasurer.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to suspend the rules that Resolutions be fully and completely read on three different days and that Resolution 2015-25 be placed on second reading and passed.

VOTE YES- Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Hadzinsky to approve Resolution 2015-25 A Resolution declaring it necessary to levy an additional tax upon Real Property within the Village of Garrettsville for Police purposes, requesting the County Auditor to certify the current tax valuation of the Village and number of mills necessary to generate a specified amount of revenue annually.

VOTE NAY—Hadzinsky, Hardesty, Anderson, Johnson, Kaiser, Harrington

(Motion Fails).

Ordinance 2015-28 An ordinance amending Section 1193.07 and 1193.08 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Garrettsville relating to restoration of non-conforming Single Family Dwellings. Read on second reading. (Public Hearing August 19, 2015).

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Kaiser to suspend the rules that Ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-31 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Hadzinsky to approve Ordinance 2015-31 An ordinance amending Ordinance 2015-07 Entitled “Annual Appropriation Ordinance” to make appropriations for current expenses and expenditures for the Village of Garrettsville, State of Ohio during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Johnson to suspend the rules that Ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-32 be placed on first reading and passed.

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

ABSTAIN-Harrington

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Kaiser to approve Ordinance 2015-32 An ordinance accepting and approving, for recording purposes only, replats of the “Fox Hollow” subdivision block F-R and G, authorizing the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to sign the plats for recording.

VOTE AYES—Hadzinsky, Hardesty Anderson, Johnson, Kaiser

ABSTAIN-Harrington

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Harrington to suspend the rules that Ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-33 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to approve Ordinance 2015-33 An ordinance amending Section 5.1 of Ordinance 2009-67, the “Village of Garrettsville, Portage County, Ohio Employee Handbook”, retroactive to June 25, 2015.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to suspend the rules that Ordinance be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-34 be placed on first reading and passed.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to approve Ordinance 2015-34 Village Tax Budget for 2016.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Brad Cromes was present to introduce himself to Council, he has been the new County Treasurer for six months and wanted to say hello. He has a web-site in place to pay property tax bills online, unclaimed monies and has started a Home Improvement Program for Portage County residents to apply for low interest loans for homeowners who want to make home improvements. Tom Hardesty asked Brad Cromes what is going to be done about delinquent accounts in the Village of Garrettsville, there are several properties owing large amounts of money. Cromes said he is working on getting the issues resolved.

Teri Eiermann was present to discuss the Police Levy for the Police Department. She had residents sign a petition to get the levy on the ballot and felt Council should have voted to let residents vote and make a decision about the levy. Chris Anderson questioned Teri Eiermann on what she had done to review the expenditures for the Police Department. Chris Anderson felt Teri Eiermann should have done more research. Eric Dunn stated that Anderson is making a judgement call on Teri Eiermann and her decision to go to the voters of the Village of Garrettsville and let them make their own decision.

Jesse Ellison was present and said he feels he was given the wrong information when he signed the petition, he was told that the State of Ohio was cutting funding. Jeff Kaiser said we won't be a bit safer if the levy passes, we will still be safe in the Village. Becky Harrington said we all have to live within the budget.

Mike Paul was present to discuss an issue with flooding on Meadow Run. He had a house sold and now the sale was cancelled due to flooding issues. Can't the Village do something about this? Now I am just going to basically give the house away. Council told Mike Paul the Village is not responsible for the drainage issues on Meadow Run. It was the contractor who developed the subdivision. There is nothing Council can do.

Becky Harrington said the Main Street Project should begin in the middle of August.

Mayor Rick Patrick asked Council to enter into Executive Session for reasons of personnel compensation.

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Kaiser to enter into Executive Session for reason of personnel compensation.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

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

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to suspend the rule that Ordinances be fully and completely read on three different days and that Ordinance 2015-22 be placed on first reading and passed as amended. The Clerk-Treasurer will have no raise for the next four years. The salary for the Clerk-Treasurer will remain at \$53,000.00.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

Moved by Harrington, seconded by Anderson to approve amended Ordinance 2015-22 An ordinance establishing the compensation of the Clerk-Treasurer for the electoral term commencing April 1, 2016.

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

NAY—Hardesty

Moved by Hardesty, seconded by Harrington to adjourn.

VOTE AYES—Unanimous

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk