

**FINANCE MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Bob Gaglione.

**Roll Call:** Ben Prescott, Bob Gaglione, and Jenny August.

**Others:** Mayor Linda Clark

**Citizens:** Ray Schwartz from NECO, Harry Buchert

❖ Motion to excuse Dave Sluka by Bob Gaglione, seconded by Ben Prescott. Both voted yes.

**CITIZENS:** Ray Schwartz from NECO gave a presentation on their water meters and reading equipment. Their readers are radio based. Several surrounding communities are using these same meters. These meters are compatible with our software as well as the county's program. The signal can be collected from one quarter of a mile away from a receiver that can be mounted on the dash board. It would take them about a month and a half to install a meter at each account and installation would be included in the cost. Each meter is about \$225. Bob asked about the life expectancy of the battery. Ray said it is about 20-25 years, and it starts giving you warnings when it is getting ready to be replaced. The receiver also detects problems such as water leaks. It reads every hour and looks for usage changes. They also offer low interest financing. Harry asked if they have the capability of shutting someone off. These meters do not, but they have one available that can do that, but it is more expensive.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

There was no discussion.

❖ Motion to accept the February Finance minutes as presented by Ben, seconded by Bob. Both voted yes.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Jenny reviewed three work orders from C.T. Consultants that will be coming to Council Tuesday. There were no questions on the financial reports.

❖ Motion to forward the Financial Reports to Council by Ben, seconded by Bob. Both voted yes.

**BILLS OF RESOLUTION:**

There were no questions on the bills.

❖ Motion to forward the Bills of Resolution to Council by Ben, seconded by Bob. Both voted yes.

**LEGISLATION:**

**ORD. 2019-60** This was to add a surcharge to the water & sewer bills. It was tabled at the last Council meeting. The Service Committee is recommending that Council take this off the table and vote it down since new legislation is coming.

**RES. 2020-02** This is the final reading for legislation that is related to the referendum. This would direct the Board of Elections to put it on the ballot in November. No discussion.

**RES. 2020-13** This is granting ODOT consent to do a bridge project in the village. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

**ORD. 2020-14** This is to change the handbook procedure to hire someone. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

**ORD. 2020-15** This is to add a surcharge to sewer to help cover operating costs. Ben asked why it is only for sewer. Linda said the Service Committee based it on the C.T. Consultants analysis that the sewer fund will be going into the red, and also because we have several major sewer expenditures coming that will be EPA mandated. Ben said it should be divided between both water and sewer. Linda said the reservoir project will not be finished this year, so that can be divided \$50,000 this year and the rest next year. Linda and Harry think the village should put the same \$87.69 surcharge on all customers that the county was proposing. She said the good thing is that if we did that, it would be indefinite. If the county does it, it will be decreasing every year. Ben said that is too much money and many of our residents can't afford to pay that. He also thinks it is not fair for people that use a low amount of water. This can be amended at Council Tuesday if Council chooses to add a surcharge to both water and sewer. Linda said that for what we are going to be saving in wages will nearly cover the majority of cost of the new meters. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

**DISCUSSIONS:**

Replacing Water Meter-

Bob said this was already discussed during Ray's presentation.

Chapters 921.02 (j) and 941.22

Something has come up lately about multi-unit buildings that only have one meter. At Council we will be verifying the wording of this section of the codified ordinances. Harry thinks every unit should be required to have their own meter. Linda said our legislation reads that way, but the county allows that if you only have one lateral, you only need one meter.

**NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm by Ben, seconded by Bob. Both voted aye.

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David Sluka, Finance Chair

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Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer