

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2022

Call to Order at 6:33 PM by Mayor Clark

Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: Nina Schroeder, Scott Weaver, Tammy Meyer, Marty Hura, Heather Paisley

Others Present: Solicitor Michele Stuck, Police Chief Joe Urso, Mayor Linda Clark, Fiscal Officer Teresa Criblez, Village Engineer Gene Arters, Patrolman Miranda Brothers

Citizens: Steve Thorn, Kevin Maloney, Bob Ress, Marty Fergus, Cookie Vanek

- ❖ Mayor Clark asked for a motion to excuse Village Administrator Maryann Fabian because she is on vacation. Scott motioned. Tammy second. All ayes.

Council Seat Interviews

Kevin Maloney and Steve Thorn have submitted letters of interest for the Village Council seat. Tammy started the questions by asking both of them what brought them to Mantua. Kevin said that he has always loved this area of northeast Ohio. He has worked in this area in the past. His wife and him, last year, moved from Lakewood Ohio to Mantua Village. They wanted some acreage, and a smaller house. Fell in love with the Village and fell in love with the house, and have been here since. Steve Thorn said that he has lived in northeast Ohio for the past 25 years, He looked for a property that would house him and his son's family. When he found the place he lives, his plan is to live there forever permanently.

Scott asked what do you think you can bring to the Council in the way of new ideas? Kevin said that he is well organized and he has attention to details. Kevin is an engineer by trade, he would bring a fresh perspective coming from a less-small community, and bring ideas in that way. He has knowledge and experience. Kevin has worked in the non-profit sector and the manufacturing sector. He said he could bring those skills and knowledge to look at things from a different perspective. Steve said that he has enthusiasm, he likes to see things done. He has a great love for the community and the people that live here. He wants this to be the kind of place where his grandchildren grow up, where he can be proud to live here. He wants to help make it better, and break down any barriers that may or may not exist between leadership and citizens. Steve wants to open communication, encourage neighborhoods in all their forms.

Scott asked since Kevin and Steve's time living in the Village, what do they see where Village Council could make things better for our residents? Kevin does not want Mantua to lose the feeling it has as a small tight knit community. He thinks that it is important as members of Council that they should bring new business, more families, to help businesses thrive and provide an environment for kids learning, for businesses to grow and expand. And for families to have a safe space to live and work. Steve said that he agrees with Kevin, better communication between Council and communities. Right now, we really do not have a way to disseminate information to the people. He wishes more people would attend the meetings. Steve would like to try to find a solution to that, and maybe in the process generate a lot of community interest.

Nina said that those were her bullet points when she submitted her letter of interest to join Village Council, transparency, communication, engagement, involvement. She said that Steve wrote a comment on *The Portager* that resonated with her and it said opportunities to serve. Nina's question is how do you propose we get more faces here and get more community engagement? Steve said that he would make it his goal to go out and talk to as many people as he can, that would be a start. He didn't have any great ideas yet, if he did, he would have already told them to the Village. Steve said to find out what ideas the public has about communication. Kevin said to get a broader knowledge to the people to know there is council meetings, maybe flyers in local establishments. Having the mayor or council members speak at local events. Having more of a presence in the community. Steve said that he would have liked an official welcome to the Village, that explained where to find information on what was going on in the community. Kevin did say that the Village website is a good source of information, and we need to let people know about it.

Marty had no questions.

Heather asked if there was anything Kevin and Steve did not like about the Village. Kevin said that he has a long term concern, about businesses and families moving to the area, maintain a tax base. Having the ability to

services within a community. To be on top of finances, and expanding the tax base. Steve said that he does not like the dilapidated buildings when you come in from the South end of town.

Tammy asked if either candidate had trouble with any nights of the meetings, they would be attending. Mayor Clark said the Finance meeting is the Wednesday before Council which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month., and the Service meeting was the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month. She also said that the Council meeting is always the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. The person would be an alternate for the Fire Board that meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Mondays of the month.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to go into executive session at 6:51 PM to appoint a public official. Scott second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy motioned to come out of executive session at 7 PM. Scott second. All ayes.

Roll Call vote. Heather-Kevin, Marty-Steve, Nina-Steve, Tammy-Steve, Scott-Steve.

Steve Thorn is now a member of the Village Council.

Kevin asked about the Landmark Commission. Mayor explained what the Landmark Commission has been doing.

Steve Thorn was sworn in as a Village Council member.

## Mayors Report

Mayor Clark has a special event form from Youth Baseball/softball, north side of High St., starting March 31, 2022 through October 17, 2022.

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve Youth Baseball/Softball special event. Tammy second. All ayes.

Mayor Clark has a special event form from Art-on-the-Hill and Wine on July 9, 2022. They are in the process of renewing insurance.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to approve Art-on-the-Hill and Wine special event contingent on insurance. Heather second. All ayes.

Mayor Clark has a special event form from Advanced Rehab for Cinco De Mayo on May 5, 2022.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to approve Cinco De Mayo special event. Scott second. All ayes.

Heather was able to reach out to DPS (Department of Public Safety) about the license fee tax. They sent an email explaining why the Village sees a loss in revenue. The DPS did a geocoding and found that a trucking firm on Frost Road had been paying license fee tax to the Village. The Village has lost 39-40% of this funding. Mayor Clark suggested that the Village uses ARPA fund to replenish the losses of the license fee tax in the Street Fund for 2022.

Dann Tillet is asking if the Village can contribute to the Eastside of Main Street project financially. Mayor Clark advised him the Council had already stated they would support the projects, but could not contribute any funds. Mayor Clark told Dan Tillet she would ask Council again. The Village cannot commit to giving funds for this project because it is on private property. No easements have been given. Heather wanted to clarify that this is not a DMRC project, but the DMRC is raising funds for the match.

The DMRC Sontag bench was damaged on Main Street located by the coffee shop on the north end this winter with all of the snow that we received. Mayor Clark received an email from Edie, that the Village, while we were plowing broke the bench. Mayor Clark stated that the Village does not plow the sidewalks. This bench was located in front of the coffee shop on the north end. Someone had pushed snow during this first storm from the sidewalk to the telephone pole that is almost even with the corner of the building. The bench was right

there. There was easily four feet high and six feet deep of snow piled at that location. Mayor Clark said that our people did not break this. Tammy stated that the DMRC said they would fix this. Mayor Clark asked the Village Council, if the Village should offer to pay for a portion of this bench to be repaired. She also said that we should request that they remove the benches in the winter. Scott said that if the DMRC is going to pay for this bench then we should just leave it. Mayor Clark is going to contact the DMRC and tell them that the Village is appreciative that they are repairing their own private property, express great appreciation.

The Village Council has a copy of the letter from the Landmark Commission. The Commission would like to attend a conference at the cost of \$35 per person, with four people wanting to go.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to approve the fund for the Landmark Commission to attend this conference on April 9, 2022. Heather second. All ayes.

Clark Magdych said that the Commission is planning on doing another mailing in May, they would also like to have a booth at Art-on-the-Hill and the Potato Festival. They have a \$600 budget.

Kevin Maloney volunteered to be on Landmark Commission.

- ❖ Tammy motioned for Kevin to be sworn in on the Landmark Commission. Heather second. All ayes.

Mayor Clark has the letter prepared for the cemetery trust request. This includes Urban Growers \$983, Mowing \$14,250, last and final payment of the truck of \$4000, water bill, fireproof safe \$1899, leaking spigots at cemetery \$3829, repair the marble in the mausoleum on the crypts is \$5000. The person in charge of the trust wanted more information about this repair. The request total came to \$31,259.

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve the letter of request to the cemetery trust fund. Heather second. All ayes.

Status on grant funding:

West Franklin Street project, we didn't receive the OPWC funds last August, but have applied for small government funding. We should be hearing if we received that soon. That project was \$385,000.00 total. Grant funds are \$250,000.00 and local match is \$85,000.00 out of the Road levy funds and a \$50,000.00 loan.

Buchert Park Phase III approved to be bid out this month. This is a Recreational Trail Grant from ODNR. Total \$87,000.00 for the project. \$22,000 in matching funds from DMRC and \$65,000.00 in grant funds. This is a reimbursable grant. Which means we pay 100% upfront and get reimbursed when it is complete or as we have paid receipts and check copies to send in. This is an 80/20 split.

Paddling Enhancement Grant 2022 is for approximately \$48,000.00. The Village should know if we are approved in June 2022. It is a reimbursable grant. Which means we pay 100% upfront, and get reimbursed when it is complete.

Canada Road paving \$48,000.00 from Road Levy funds to do another section/possible finish.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to have Maryann get quotes for the portion of Canada road. Marty second. All ayes.

Buchert Park Phase IV, a Nature Works Grant from ODNR. This is for replacing the concrete at pavilion number one, and putting in an ADA sidewalk from the parking lot to the pavilion. To replace the section of the basketball court in the center and repair/replace the fence in the same area. CT Consultants is working on writing a grant for this, it is due in June 2022. DMRC is advancing the Village the funds for this project and they get their funds back except the matching funds when it is complete. This is the first type of advance funding, and it is a reimbursable grant. There is a 75/25 split.

Mayor Clark asked the Village Council if we will be applying for anymore grants until we know what our 2023 budget is. Scott said that we should not. Tammy agreed.

Cookie Vanek asked about when the rest of Franklin Street would get done. Mayor Clark explained that we only receive a certain amount of road levy money, and in order to do that we have to have the money there for the match. That is why it gets done in small increments.

Teresa summarized the financial reports.

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve the financial reports. Marty second. All ayes.

Minutes approval

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve the minutes from 2.15.2022 Public Hearing. Marty second. All ayes.

Council minutes from 2.15.2022 are tabled until Teresa can listen to the recording to clarify Fire Board comments and Scarlett Guard send off.

Legislation:

ORD. 2022-01 AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 523 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA, RELATING TO CURFEWS FOR MINORS. 3rd reading.

- ❖ Heather motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-01. Nina second. Marty, Scott, Heather, Nina voted yes. Chuck and Tammy voted no. Motioned passed.

ORD. 2022-04 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 159 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA AND DISSOLVING THE MANTUA VILLAGE HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION. Tabled on 2nd reading.

ORD. 2022-06 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 905 OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA CODIFIED ORDINANCES CONCERNING PERMITS FOR STREET EXCAVATIONS. 2nd reading. Nina said that Maryann wanted to amend something. Michele said that Maryann wanted to amend that specifications would be in the Village Administrators office.

ORD. 2022-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 135 OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATING TO THE POSITION OF FISCAL OFFICER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd reading.

- ❖ Scott motioned to suspend the rules. Heather second. All ayes.
- ❖ Scott motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-09. Tammy second. All ayes.

ORD. 2022-12 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S AUTHORIZATION OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE TO ACT AS CO-REPRESENTATIVE ON THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION "WORKSWISE" WEB PORTAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading

- ❖ Tammy motioned to suspend the rules. Scott second. All ayes.
- ❖ Tammy motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-12. Scott second. All ayes.

ORD. 2022-13 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR PADDLING ENHANCEMENT GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading

- ❖ Scott made a motion to suspend the rules. Heather second. All ayes.
- ❖ Scott motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-13. Tammy second. All ayes.

ORD. 2022-14 A RESOLUTION TO ELECT THE STANDARD ALLOWANCE AVAILABLE UNDER THE REVENUE LOSS PROVISION OF THE CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT. 1st reading.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to suspend the rules. Heather second. All ayes.

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-14. Marty second. All ayes.

ORD.2022-15 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 410.12 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA RELATING TO SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS. 1st reading. Mayor Clark said this will have to go three readings and have a public hearing.

ORD. 2022-16 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2022 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading.

- ❖ Tammy motioned to amend to \$203.96 Ordinance 2022-16. Heather second. All ayes.
- ❖ Scott motioned to suspend the rules as amended. Tammy second. All ayes.
- ❖ Heather motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-16 as amended. Marty second. All ayes.

ORD. 2022-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 955.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA RELATING TO CEMETERY FEES. 1st reading. Tammy asked why do we have township residents having a break when they have their own cemeteries. Nina stated that it seemed to be status quo for other cemeteries and that we didn't want to gouge our citizens, but we are not losing money. Nina said that we talked about not including any discount for bulk purchase. Nina will be sending the information again to make sure everyone has the latest information. Tammy asked if these numbers were good for a few years. Nina said 6 months to two years, and they would continue to follow, so they are not gouging the customers.

ORD. 2022-18 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND #1000 TO THE STREETS OPERATING FUND #2011. 1st reading. Michele explained this is the money we received from selling the Sterling.

- ❖ Heather motioned to suspend the rules. Tammy second. All ayes.
- ❖ Scott motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-18. Marty second. All ayes.

#### Department Heads and Village Engineer

Police Chief Joe Urso said there was a Safety meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. They accepted the minutes from the previous meeting, went over the appropriations status, vendors and the SRO report. There was a discussion about Ord. 2022-05 the AT & T. Went over CPT Training and reimbursement. Every officer in the state of Ohio is required to do 24 hours of continuing training. Most of the training will be online, but not all of it. The Village is eligible for 50% reimbursement based on the current wages. Anyone that is employed part time here and full time somewhere else, the full-time position gets their full reimbursement. We got back \$1444.17; Safety is recommending that this money goes back into the training fund.

- ❖ Scott motioned to approve to put the reimbursement for training (\$1444.17) back into the training fund. Heather second. All ayes.

Chief also said they discussed employee status update. Chief said he had one employee out on a family leave medical issue, and since then she wrote a letter of retirement. Chief Urso read a heartfelt letter from Linda Wilks who will retire on 5.20.2022.

Chief Urso talked briefly with Chief Roosa about the dispatch contract and Chief Roosa does not want to go anywhere else for dispatch, but there are a lot of things up in the air.

Patrolman Brothers, Patrolman Toukonen, and Sargent Gilbert are interested in having an Easter Egg Hunt for the Village at Buchert Park. It will be April 9<sup>th</sup>.

One accident with a deer and one of the Village's cruisers occurred on Mantua Center Road. No one was injured. We are waiting for parts to repair the cruiser.

Golf carts came up in discussion. Sargent Dunn had a list of requirements that the ORC states. There are two residents that have golf carts, and one resident was not compliant with the ORC, and they were told not to drive it until they were compliant.

The last thing the Safety meeting talked about was a Towing Administration fee. There needs to be more discussion about this at Safety before it comes to Council.

Tammy wanted to comment that what the Village gets personally from the police department is services like, house checks. The police department did 181 house checks.

Nina asked if the Sheriff was going to come to a Council meeting. Mayor Clark said that she invited the Sheriff to come to a Finance meeting last week, but the Sheriff was booked and could not make it. As soon as Mayor Clark has a date, she will let everyone know. Nina wanted to know if we have started working on a fact sheet for facts for the levy. Mayor Clark said that we need to make sure that people know that this levy is only on earned income.

Village Administrator Maryann Fabian's report is on file. She is on vacation at this time. No questions.

Village Engineer Gene Arters from C.T. Consultants report is on file. Gene said that the mayor did a great job of covering his report already.

## Committees

Scott Weaver for Service and Planning. Service we had new tires on the Freightliner. Replace the hot water tank down at the lodge. We had a frozen sewer line at the lodge, and we had to replace the diaphragms on the toilets at the lodge. We discussed that we spent a lot of money out of snow plowing already for this year. Maryann put in for the Paddling Enhancement grant. We went over 2022-06 about the excavations of the streets. The service department was pretty busy at the lodge last month. At Planning we went over the satellite dish ordinance. We are going to go over our rental inspections next month.

Tammy Meyer for Finance. Teresa already went over the financial reports. They discussed if there was anyway to make more money for the Village.

Marty Hura for Parks and Shade Tree. Half the grants we are applying for are for the parks, and the parks fund is broke because of all of the problems at the lodge. Marty understands there is another problem with the lodge that came up Monday that the furnace was not working. Mayor Clark wanted to clarify the broke comment. The money that had been appropriated for parks had been used for the diaphragms on the toilets, the frozen sewer drain, and the hot water tank. We have expended our \$4000 in parks for this type of thing. So, we will be using the ARPA fund for these items. The whole Village is not broke. Nina said that Shade Tree has the Arbor Day celebration Crestwood Local School District. Tomorrow's meeting is when Shade Tree will be reading the essays.

Mayor Clark for Cemetery, and Board of Zoning Appeals. Cemetery Board fees, and trust requests. Nothing is pending on the BZA.

Tammy Meyer for PCR. Tammy could not make the meeting, but the annual report came out. She will have that on file with Teresa, so if anyone wants to come and look at it, they can.

Heather Paisley for Safety. Heather has learned that we have services available to us from the Portage County Jail. They like to keep the inmates busy. They can come out to work free of charge, we would only have to supply lunch.

Tammy Meyer for Fire Board. Fire Board hired a new employee. A new ambulance was to be delivered on April 1<sup>st</sup> but is being pushed out to at least June because they cannot get parts.

Chief Urso said that he forgot to say in his report that Sargent Gilbert said that there were some increased saturation days coming up, and he would like to do an overlapping traffic blitz in the Village. If you see multiple officers on any given time at any given period, this is what is happening.

Mayor Clark requested to go into executive session for a personnel employment at 8:39 PM.

❖ Scott motioned to go into executive session for a personnel employment discussion. Tammy second. All ayes.

❖ Tammy motioned to come out of executive session at 8:52 PM. Marty second. All ayes.

#### Adjournment

❖ Scott motioned to adjourn. Heather second. All ayes.

Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 8:53 PM.