

Metamora Village Minutes

Council met in regular session Monday, July 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Office.

Council present: Barb Georgia, Tina Sullivan, Karin Lane, Ken Wysong and Cheryl Geer, absent Eric Gonzalez

Others present: Mayor Oar, VFO Karin Sauerlender, Bd. of Public Affairs President Richard Sauerlender, Rick Meiring Water Superintendent, Kovar Street Superintendent, Bob Sabo Zoning Inspector and Sue Clendenin Deputy Clerk

Guest: Cathy Mossing

Mayor Loar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cathy Mossing recognized. Mossing requested council's permission to hold this year's annual Park-0-Rama event in the village park. Event to begin Thursday August 6th and running through to Sunday, August 9th. Necessary forms have been completed. Ken Wysong motioned to allow the Park-0-Rama event in the village park on the dates requested. Second by Cheryl Geer and approved by all council. Park-O-Ram recently purchased (2) coolers and one freezer from the Evergreen Music Boosters, with intention to place one cooler in concession and second cooler and refrigerator/freezer in the new building, space permitting. C. Geer said some have inquired about having T'Ball games during Park-O-Rama. Mossing said it had been discussed in the past, it was found the T'Ball season ended too early to get teams back together for Park-O-Rama.

Mossing said it wouldn't be safe to have softball games and T'Ball games at the same time. Balls hit over the fence have the potential of ending up on or near the new T'Ball field and possibly injuring a player. Wysong said Matt Keller suggested hanging nets on the poles between right and right center field. Mossing said if the T'Ball field was moved back to the agreed upon location in the northwest corner of the park, then we could have T'Ball games during Park-O-Rama. K. Wysong said it's too late this year to schedule T'Ball games but should be incorporated into next year's event.

Park-O-Rama meeting will be held in the park, Sunday July 12 at 7:00 p.m. Mossing will ask Park-O-Rama committee members for a \$22,000 commitment towards the construction of the new park building.

Zoning Inspector's report – Zoning inspector asking council for decision on a zoning violation. After concurring with a surveyor it was found a resident on Mill Street moved a front yard fence forward 1.5 feet, which violates the setback agreed upon by the Board of Zoning Appeals. Prosecutor Smith recommends council consider sending this resident a letter telling him to completely remove fence and disallowing fence to be put up again. K. Wysong made a motion mandating resident at 271 Mill Street completely removes front yard fencing on or before July 14th and not allow fence to be re-installed in the area approved prior by the Board of Zoning Appeals. T. Sullivan seconded the motion, with all council voting approval. If Mr. Pope does not comply by the given deadline a court citation will be issued. The tall weeds obstructing the neighbors view while exiting their property have been mowed down by a Village employee. Some weeds were left standing, after the owner approached the village employee and told him, "He didn't want to be there." The Zoning inspector had given the property owner ample time to mow down the tall weeds in his front yard, before the village took care of it. Resident will be billed \$50 an hour for time spent mowing. Village employee spent approximately 30 minutes to mow weeds. Mr. Pope's junk violation hearing scheduled for August 19th. Judge extended court date three months following pre-trial.

Water Superintendent's report – Rick Meiring said demolition of the former Evergreen Middle School is underway, expected completion in two weeks. Demolition crew using about 7-10,000 gallons of water daily to keep dust down. Rick on vacation next week, will leave a call list at the plant and village office. Will also ask John Sanderson if he would help out in a pinch; he's familiar with our water system. Sent out CCR report last month and THM notices this week

The bills were presented for payment: Barb Georgia motioned to pay bills. Second by Tina Sullivan and approved by all council.

Street Superintendent report – worked on reading Assumption meters, fixed a few sewer back up problems, fixed a couple curb boxes. Ken asked if curb weeds could be sprayed with round up. Steve already sprayed East Main, and asked Brent to spray West Main and Maple. Consider renting curb sealer to use on new curbs in town. It was recommended new trees in town get watered. Mayor will ask Fire Department if grass buggy could be used.

Minutes – Ken Wysong moved to approve June 15th, 2009 council minutes as written. Cheryl Geer seconded motion. Motion approved by council, with Tina Sullivan abstaining.

Water Employees Severance Packages – council read letter from Water Board encouraging passage of the water employees' severance packages. T. Sullivan apologized to water employees, she thought council already approved and passed the severance package. B. Georgia wanted to make sure wording in the package clarified that if an employee is offered a village job after the water plant shuts down and it's turned down the severance should not be available to them, as long as hourly wage is the same. The way the package reads now, one could argue the severance is applicable whether employee leaves village employment or not.

If new job offered is lower in pay, a reduced package could be negotiated at that time. Basically the package offers to pay a lump sum equivalent to the wages that would be paid for twenty, forty-hour weeks plus any accumulated, unused sick time at the employee's then current rate of pay. The employee would be eligible for unemployment at the end of the period for which they are being paid (20 weeks plus accumulated sick time.) The village would also continue to pay the employee's health insurance during the 20 week (plus accumulated sick time) period, provided the employees has not found alternative employment. The same package will be offered to part time water employees with a pay out of a twelve-week period. Rick reminded council the village would still need someone with a sewer one license after the water plant is no longer in operation. Water Board president Rich Sauerlender the point of the severance is to encourage employees to stay to the end of water plant operations, regardless if they accept a job working for the village or not. Council disagreed; felt severance should not be applicable if employees accept another position with village and making the same hourly rate of pay. Sauerlender said the Board would not have a problem including verbiage in the package that if an employee were offered another position with the village at the same rate of pay a severance package would not be available. If employee is offered a job at a lesser rate of pay the village may negotiate with employee a prorated severance package. Karin will rewrite package, provide a copy to solicitor, water board, and employees. Council will review at July 20th council meeting.

Meiring said July 1, 2009 our plant was certified Class Three. Meiring has a Water 3 license, which is necessary to operate a Class 3 plant. When Meiring is not at the plant it must be manned by a Class 2 operator, which we don't have. EPA will expect compliance in

January 2010.

Solicitor's report – Rita contract approved to form. Appears Rita uses same rate as CCA.

Old Business – Concrete floors in new park building cracked soon after being poured. Architect suggested two options for contractor to compensate: remove and replace all floors, or place epoxy coating on floors. Council agreed with options presented by the architect. Council suggested using colored epoxy, if this option is selected. Is the architect charging for project involvement at this time or in original contract?

Trees on East Main are showing signs of iron deficiency and all trees in town should be deep root fertilized. Davey Tree and New Century Tree gave same diagnosis. Clerk will get comparable bids for necessary tree care.

New Business - Clerk getting estimate to tuck-point Park Shelter C.

Will see a 9.73% increase in health insurance premiums. Discussion followed. K. Wysong motioned to increase spousal and family contributions made by employees by 5%, effective with August withholdings. Second by T. Sullivan. Approved by all council. Employee health coverage will still be provided at no cost to full-time employees.

RITA – Finalized switching over income tax collections to RITA. Village currently in contract with Central Collection Agency out of Cleveland. Ken Wysong motioned to suspend the rules on **Ordinance #777**, to enter into contract with RITA for the purpose of income tax collections. (See attached contract.) Second by Barb Georgia. Roll call vote taken: Geer yes, Lane yes, Sullivan yes, Wysong yes and Georgia yes. Ken Wysong motioned to pass **Ordinance #777** under emergency measure. Second by Barb Georgia. Roll call vote taken: Geer yes, Lane yes, Sullivan yes, Wysong yes, and Georgia yes.

C. Geer moved to enter into executive session at 8:47 to discuss possible land purchase. All council voted approval. Council left executive session at 9:00 p.m. Ken Wysong motioned to allow the village to enter into negotiations with JRS Rentals for the purchase of additional park property. Second by B. Georgia. Approved by all council.

K. Wysong informed by Zach Meiring Men's League fees would be paid at the end of their season July 17th.

T. Sullivan made motion to allow Mayor Loar to purchase a wireless speaker system not to exceed \$1000. Second by B. Georgia. Approved by all council.

With the notable increase in electric cost for ball field lights, council decided to have meter pulled after Park-O-Rama. Council will revisit in the spring.

Fiscal Officer's report – Council petition forms due at the Bd. of Elections August 20th by 4 p.m.

Following transfers requested:

TO	FROM	AMT
A1-3-B-231 Park-Utilities	A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay	\$2000.00
A1-3-B-239 Park-Misc. Cont.	A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay	500.00
A1-7-X-271-1 Trans. To Cap.Impr.	A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay	6872.00
A1-3-B-211-1 Seasonal Help	A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay	2500.00
A1-3-B-212-1 Seasonal Benefits	A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay	386.25
Increase appropriations	D1-7-B-230 CDBG – Park Building	\$ 3,942.00

D1-7-A-230	Street Scape Grant	5,830.00	
B1-6-B-255-1	Parker-Hannifin Roadway	51,000.00	
Increase Revenues	D1-I-193	Transfers In	\$ 6,872.00
D1-A-141	Street Scape Grant	2,900.00	
B1—D-144	Ohio Dept of Dev.	51,000.00	

The VFO informed council that the \$51,000 increase in revenues and appropriations was due to the Department of Development grant received for the Parker-Hannifin roadway. Mayor Loar had applied with funding to reimburse Parker for the new road that put in that will also eventually access the Vershum property when that is ready for development. We have received the grant money from ODOT and the appropriations need to be increased in order to make a reimbursement payment to Parker. The VFO indicated concern that the auditors may cite the village because the "project" was not bid out even though it was over the \$35,000 limit. We had no control over this project at all. We simply applied for funding. The Mayor stated that it went through Regional Planning and CIC. The Village had agreed to apply for the money assuming that the Village would not have to put any money on the project, which cost more than the \$51,000. The VFO is also concerned because she has no paperwork at all regarding the grant application.

C. Geer motioned to approve transfers with the exception of the increase in revenues and appropriations for the Parker roadway. Second by K. Wysong. Approved by all council.

Mayor's report – Read May's Sheriff's report. Presented Time Warner cable updates. ODOT letter said village not in compliance with bridge inspections. Mayor will contact ODOT to verify information. County engineer inspected bridges in October of 2008.

Looking into surveillance cameras for the park. Vandalism common occurrence in park.

K. Wysong motioned to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Second by B. Georgia. Approved by all council.

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