

Metamora Village Council

November 3, 2008

Metamora Council met in regular session Monday, November 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Offices.

Council present: Pres. Ken Wysong, Tina Sullivan, Barb Georgia, Karon Lane & Cheryl Geer, (absent Eric Gonzalez)

Other officials present: Mayor Loar, VFO Karin Sauerlender, Deputy Clerk Sue Clendenin, Water Superintendent Rick Meiring and Zoning Inspector Bob Sabo

Guests: Mr/Mrs. Marion Loar, Mr. Greg Geer, Mr/Mrs. George Flack, Cindi Pawlaczyk, Gary Keys and Mark Eberhart from Toledo Edison and Janelle Antoszewski

Mayor Loar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conditional Use Home Occupation Request

- The zoning inspector recognized. Council requested a letter of conditions be drafted by the zoning inspector for Janelle Antoszewski to agree to and sign before council would allow the operation of a dog grooming business at her home on Garnsey Ave. All abutting property owners were notified of the home occupation request and were offered the opportunity to attend tonight's meeting to voice concerns they might have. No concerns spoken. J. Antoszewski agreed to the following conditions: no kenneling of animals, council to revisit home occupation in one year and regular hours adhered to.

T. Sullivan motioned to allow Janelle Antoszewski to start a dog grooming business out of her garage at 121 Garnsey Ave. if conditions set forth in the agreement are followed. B. Georgia seconded motion, all council voted approval.

Middle School Buildings and Property

- Northwest State Community College has offered to deed over the former middle school property to the village. NW State building a satellite campus is no longer feasible. They had hired an engineer to go through the building to give an opinion of the buildings; he said the only thing worth saving was the memories. Consensus of the local Task Force is to tear down the buildings and build a community center, if money allows or just leave it green for a while. NW State informed council \$400,000 of the state money already awarded to them for the project would most likely be available to the village if property were deeded over to the village. Money could be used to tear down buildings and build a new structure (of our choice) with left over money. B. Georgia said she would love to see a community center but has some concern with the costs associated with operating a new building. Would we ask taxpayers to help fund the operation of a new building? If so, taxpayers should make the decision. Mayor Loar said if N. W. State turns over the deed to the village and the \$400,000 of state money, they expect educational space is made available to them in the new building. The mayor assumes we will have time to apply for grant money to help with building costs. Council member T. Sullivan thought it best to let

NW State spend the state money to demo the buildings and green over the area, this would remove any building requirements expected of the village. Council member Wysong said if we ask NW State to demo the buildings, left over money would go back to the state. It would be a shame to lose the money and the opportunity to bring a community room or another structure to the village. Village resident Cindi Pawlaczyk said the community would welcome and has a need for a multi-purpose facility. Our community has the ability to come together and work on a project they believe in. A new building could house classrooms and even space for a gymnasium that could be rented out to coaches. Council member B. Georgia said even if state money is available to build a building where will the money come to operate the building? Utilities, insurance, possibly flood insurance, grounds maintenance, etc., would be costly. Council member Lane said if a building is built outside a flood plane, flood insurance will not be necessary. Regional Planning has stated grant money is available to create parks, walkways, and bike paths in flood areas. VFO to inquiry with insurance carrier if part of property is in flood plane, but not building, would flood insurance be required?

Council member K. Wysong made a motion declaring the village willing to accept the land as a greened property and willing to pursue a contract with Northwest State Community College for a future building. K. Lane seconded the motion. All council voted approval with C. Geer abstaining. A special meeting of council was scheduled for November 10th at 7:00 p.m. with Village Planning Commission to discuss contract language and options for property. Meanwhile VFO will check to see what it would take to place on ballot, if council decides to go that route.

Reading of the bills - The bills were read for approval:

B. Georgia moved to approve paying the bills. T. Sullivan seconded. All voted yes.

New Business - the village has been looking into energy options, wind power being one of them. First Energy and Toledo Edison were present to answer any questions council may have in regards to initiating and operating a municipal electric system. Utility companies will be mandated by PUCO to have 25% alternative energy in their portfolio by 2025, so they will be looking for additional energy from municipalities. Start-up costs for small homes requiring 10kw will cost about \$25,000-\$50,000 to purchase an inverter (payback 20 - 30 years.) Must apply for inter connection cost \$250, must perform impact study pertaining to safety issues, must integrate power into system to not adversely effect and impact others consistent power supply. Also need to purchase a meter that operates both ways cost \$295. If the entire village wants to go on the system will have to go beyond them and contact Midwest. Will cost village about \$500,000 to initiate system with Toledo Edison, entire project costing about 5 million dollars.

Turbine maintenance very expensive, Bowling Green pays about \$75,000 yearly per turbine. Wind turbine projects in general are expensive, might be affordable if village acquires funding, if not it would not be cost effective. Grants are available through the state. Even with wind turbines in-line, back up electric will be necessary. Wind is not a constant source of energy.

Minutes - K. Wysong motioned to approve minutes as written from October 6th and 27th council meetings. K. Lanes seconded motion, all council members approval.

Water Superintendent report - new employee Scott Hansen Sr., recently given interim lab authorization from the EPA. Rick would like council to consider purchasing Solar Bee units for lagoons. Solar Bees will turn lagoons over and extend life. Cost about \$70,000 for two units. Water Board considering purchasing one next year and a second one at a later date. Look into possible funding. Check with EPA for 0% loan for first Solar Bee and research funding options

for the second.

U.S. EPA's 2008 National Clean Water Act Recognition Award for Combined Sewer Overflow Control Excellence - Mayor Loar read a congratulatory letter from the Ohio EPA addressed to Metamora commending us for winning this award and setting an example to other communities that water quality protection is important and a priority. Completing the separation of the Village's combined sewers is an accomplishment and doing so more than four and a half years ahead of schedule is truly commendable. This is the first time a municipality from Ohio has won the award.

Street superintendent report - absent due to illness

Ask Steve to level out area where curb box was worked on at Posner's on Harvest Dr. and look for 6-plug outlets for holiday tree.

Zoning Inspector - Zoning inspector Sabo said the village office received a letter from a resident on Maple Street in response to village request to plant a tree in his front yard. The resident doesn't want a tree planted in his front yard, due to safety reasons. Already has an obstructed view of traffic while backing out of his drive, due to the abutting property owner's (3) bushy trees (with low hanging branches,) (2) piles of rocks, and two vehicles that overhang either the sidewalk and /or street. Low hanging branches over the sidewalk area nuisance for those walking the sidewalks. He would like permission to replace the existing post and board fence with a 6' privacy fence along the common property line, in hopes it would reduce ongoing problems with neighbors. Mr. Sabo agreed the bushes created a dangerous situation and informed the neighbors they need to come out. He has since received word they want him to call them back. In his opinion if the bushes and rocks are moved there would be room for a tree. K. Wysong said he spoke to both residents, the Hahn's said they did not have a problem removing the bushes and trimming back low hanging tree branches. K. Wysong not sure if they will do work or want village to do it. Will ask Mark Eisel for a price to remove the bush before he plants a tree.

Solicitor's report - Ohio revised code does not allow for a reduction in council salary due to absenteeism, salary has to stay the same while in term. Could add language to 2009 council payroll ordinance stating pay is based upon number of meetings attended, or salary is decreased when a certain amount of meeting are missed.

Old Business

Concrete work at Farley's Tavern - village willing to contribute one-third of cost, but not exceed \$1,100.

2009 water and sewer rates- T. Sullivan moved to accept first reading of Ordinance # 769 approving Board of Public Affairs recommendation to increase water and sewer rates by 3% effective first quarter of 2009. B. Georgia seconded motion, all council voted approval.

New Business - C. Geer moved to schedule year-end council meeting for Monday, December 29th at 7 p.m. B. Georgia seconded.

ended, all council voted approval.

Fiscal Officer's report - reservations needed for those wanting to attend TMACOG meeting at North-Star Steel, November 13 at 5:30 p.m. (Georgia, Geer, and the Mayor attending)

VFO Sauerlender requested the following transfers be approved:

TO
FROM
AMOUNT
A1-7-D-220 Clerk Meetings & Mil
A1-7-X-250 Capital Outlay
100.00
B1-6-C-240 Snow Supplies
B1-6-B-255 Construct & Replace
1200.00

T. Sullivan moved to approve the transfers. B. Georgia seconded. All voted yes.

Wysong inquired about the status of the curbing project, do we need to get another bid? VFO said money for curbing will be in 2009 budget, and yes we will have to go out for bids after the first of the year.

Parking on Wildflower Drive - T. Sullivan said a resident in the subdivision told her they were informed if parking continued close to Blade boxes, delivery would be discontinued. Some are still upset council decided to eliminate parking on one side of the street. Why was one side selected over the other when several mailboxes exist and only a few hydrants are located on the opposite side? T. Sullivan thought council was to revisit the issue before installing signage, but signs just went up. K. Wysong said he has yet to see parking in front of mailboxes, only a few vehicles usually parked on the street. T. Sullivan said they might not be parking directly in front of the mailboxes but close enough to prohibit the mail/Blade vehicles from maneuvering in and out for easy delivery.

Mayor's report - Would like village to hire someone to perform computer updates, backups, web page updates, etc. as a subcontractor a few hours a month. Recommending Jake Simon for position has computer science background. Ask Jake to write up a contract.

Sheriff's report for September read. Officer's spent a total of 63.25 hours patrolling the village in September, handling 10 complaints.

Village awarded CDBG money to replace old concession stand in the park. Regional Planning will keep us updated with a schedule to follow.

Mayor informed a new round of Issue II money would be available first of the year. Village may want to apply for Solar Bee funding.

K. Wysong moved to adjourn. T. Sullivan seconded, all council voted approval.



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&
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Fine Consignments**

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Metamora, Ohio
419-346-7969
or
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SAT. 10 - 2

Little Learners Discovery Center
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