

Held December 6, 20 10

Mayor Conley called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was requested with the following members present: Don Douglas, Bill Eberle, Angela Petersen, Donna Wendt-Elliott and Tim Wilkins. Mr. Fickert was excused. Mr. Pauley was also excused.

Minutes of the November 15, 2010 meeting stand approved as written.

Privileges of the Floor: None

Mayor's Report: Mayor Conley extended congratulations to KC Cousins for receiving Urban Tree Management certification. Correspondence was read from Columbia Gas regarding future rate increases in connection with their infrastructure improvements and energy efficiency programs. Residential users can see an increase of \$1.43 per month beginning May 2011. Two pieces of correspondence were read from Time Warner Cable announcing program agreements about to expire and channel changes. Edward Jones is having a Christmas open house on December 13th from 4:30-7:30 at 178 W. Water Street. Anyone wishing to attend needs to RSVP by December 8th.

Police Report – Chief Weirich distributed his November report. St. Paul United Church of Christ has again requested the use of Flat Iron Park for their live nativity. Council approved the use of the park on December 19th from 6:30-7:30.

Fiscal Officer's Report: Ms. Busche reported that the financial statements for November had been distributed. She reminded council of the public hearing on December 20th at 4:30. This is to hear public comment on deleting sections 153.600, 153.601 and 153.602 of the Codified Ordinances.

Income Tax Administrator's Report: The report had been distributed.

Village Administrator's Report: Mr. Pauley's report had been distributed in the packets.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Barney had no report.

Business of the Meeting:

Third Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions:

Resolution No. 08-2010, a resolution to make temporary appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Oak Harbor, State of Ohio, for the period January 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011 was read for the third time. Mr. Douglas moved, seconded by Mr. Eberle, to adopt Resolution No. 08-2010. On roll call vote Mr. Douglas voted yes, Mr. Eberle voted yes, Mrs. Petersen voted yes, Mrs. Wendt-Elliott voted yes and Mr. Wilkins voted yes. Resolution No. 08-2010 was adopted and will be published in summary two times in the Ottawa County Exponent.

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions:

Resolution No. 09-2010, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application with the State of Ohio, to participate in the FY2010 Comprehensive Downtown Revitalization Tier One Program and to enter into an agreement with the State was read for the first time. Mr. Douglas moved, seconded by Mr. Eberle to waive the three required readings. Mr. Wilkins asked what the application contained and what the cost was. Ms. Busche answered it is the application to apply for the planning grant for \$15,000 and village must match the funds. The cost is less than \$2,000. On roll call vote Mr. Douglas voted yes, Mr. Eberle voted yes, Mrs. Petersen voted yes, Mrs. Wendt-Elliott voted yes and Mr. Wilkins voted yes. Mr. Douglas moved, seconded by Mr. Eberle to adopt Resolution No. 09-2010. Mr. Douglas voted yes, Mr. Eberle voted yes, Mrs. Petersen voted yes, Mrs. Wendt-Elliott voted no and Mr. Wilkins voted yes. Resolution No. 09-2010 was adopted and will be published in summary two times in the Ottawa County Exponent.

Council Board Representatives:

Mid County EMS – Mr. Douglas had no report.

Portage Fire District – No report due to Mr. Fickert's absence.

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Planning Commission/BZA – The next meeting is December 13, 2010.

Regional Water Policy Board Representative – They will meet on December 15, 2010.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Conley started the work session at 7:19 PM.

Council Committee Reports:

Finance Committee – On the agenda was discussion of employee raises. Mr. Douglas asked Mr. Wilkins about his proposal at the last meeting. Mr. Wilkins said he suggested a one-time lump-sum payment in place of a percent increase on the hourly rates. Mr. Wilkins said that he reviewed the comparison information council received and he doesn't feel we are shorting anyone hourly. The hourly rates were increased intentionally several years ago because we were losing too many employees after they were trained. He would like to see some type of increase given. Mr. Eberle feels the employees are paid very well. Mrs. Petersen asked Solicitor Barney if there was anything they had to watch out for and Mr. Barney stated not really since all the employees except the police department were at-will employees. Ms. Busche added that one of the issues is whether or not council wishes pension to come out of the lump-sum amount. Mr. Wilkins suggested that pension be taken out. Mayor Conley said what makes this so difficult is that we basically have three sources of revenue and our income tax revenue is down, property tax revenues are going to take a hit and the enterprise accounts are taking a hit. Right now the village is struggling. Ms. Busche said we need to check with OPERS and Police & Fire as there are regulations depending on how it is paid if pension can be deducted. Another thing is if we take out the employee portion of the pension then the village must pay the employer portion. Mrs. Wendt-Elliott would like to see two amounts, one for full-time and one for part-time. She would like \$300 for full-time and \$150 for part-time. Mr. Douglas stated we were looking at a \$50,000 impact bottom line had we done a percentage increase across the board. His opinion is we should half that and disburse that amount however we want. Ms. Busche said she can get the information from the pension plans but council will have to determine how much and how they want it disbursed.

Parks Committee – Mr. Douglas had no report.

Rules of Council & Personnel Policies Committee – Mrs. Petersen had no report.

Other Business – Mayor Conley asked Solicitor Barney if he could call a meeting of the Property Maintenance Commission to review the current legislation. Solicitor Barney said he can call for a meeting but the Commission only has the authority to rule on appeals but as Mayor he could appoint a sub-committee to do the review and it can be the same people. Mayor Conley then appointed Don Douglas and Tim Wilkins to the sub-committee. They will meet on December 15th at 7:00 PM in council chambers.

Mayor Conley asked for an executive session for the purpose of hiring or firing personnel. Mr. Eberle moved, seconded by Mr. Douglas, to go into executive session for the purpose of hiring or firing to include council, Mayor, Solicitor, Fiscal Officer and Chief Weirich. On roll call vote Mr. Douglas voted yes, Mr. Eberle voted yes, Mrs. Petersen voted yes, Mrs. Wendt-Elliott voted yes and Mr. Wilkins voted yes. Council went into executive session at 7:39 PM. Mr. Wilkins moved, seconded by Mr. Eberle, to exit executive session. On roll call vote Mr. Douglas voted yes, Mr. Eberle voted yes, Mrs. Petersen voted yes, Mrs. Wendt-Elliott voted yes and Mr. Wilkins voted yes. Council went back to regular meeting at 8:13 PM. There was no action taken or decisions made during the executive session.

Mr. Wilkins moved, seconded by Mr. Douglas, to adjourn. With all members of Council present answering in the affirmative, meeting adjourned 8:15 PM.

Jenny M. Busche
Jenny M. Busche
Fiscal Officer

Fred Conley
Fred Conley
Mayor