

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## Lithopolis Village Council Meeting Minutes September 24th 2019

**Council Members Present:** Belek, Brown, Kidwell, , Wynkoop, Zircher,

**Council Members Absent:** Long,

**Present:** Joe Taylor – Mayor, Amanda Wolin - Interim Fiscal Officer, Ed Van Vickle - Village Administrator, W.J. Barton - Chief of Police, John Browning - Solicitor

Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for Arnold Crabtree.

### **Public Comments:**

Tyler and Rachel Kuhn address counsel: Renovated house at 145 E. Columbus St. After spending a few months renovating the house, they moved in in February. They tried to acquire water bills. They received three bills that just had fees but did not include water usage on them. Kuhns were told that Ed Van Vickle was going to discuss meter issue. They received bill from Village Utility Clerk for \$ 1673.63, and the bill gave no monthly readings. No resolution was able to be reached. Kuhns concerned there may be a leak but no way to be certain of it since they have not gotten a bill with monthly readings. Kuhns brought up concern that their water bill for the same time frame at their last home in Pickerington was 4,000 gallons as opposed to now 13,000 gallons now in Lithopolis. They have also redone the plumbing in the home.

- Brown: "Is it just the two of you?"
- Kuhns: "No we have two young kids."
- Brown: "How much of the bill was late fees?"
- Kuhns: "We were told no late fees were assessed."
- Wynkoop: "Can u pull the report in the program that will show?"
- Van Vickle: "We can. I don't have it tonight. I'm sorry. I wasn't anticipating this. We can do a usage report and it will spell out the readings that we have. But I don't have that in front of me and I don't have the password to the computer so that I cant do tonight."
- Belek: "Would there be a start reading for when they acquired their property?"
- Van Vickle: "We have a final reading from the close out reading that we have when she left the property." Several months without readings because electronic box failed and doesn't allow readings on the meter to be read.
- Brown: "Is there something you can do to test their meter?"

- Van Vickle: "Certified test meter, can replace the meter, can do a variety of things."
- Van Vickle requests two weeks to get all the data. Assures there are no late fees being assessed.

### **Mayors Comments:**

#### A) Lease of land between 5 & 9 E. Columbus St

- Public: Thought there was a promised space would be allowed to use space for restaurant
- Van Vickle: no promises made to Fisk in any official capacity. A property description was drafted. Beyond that, nothing official has been published.
- Browning: Should have gone into executive session to discuss the terms, description, and what the village was looking for in terms of details. Suggested moving this topic to the next meeting so it can be on the agenda for next meeting 2 weeks from now.

#### B) Calls about dogs OBC 90.01

- Taylor: Chief wrote Facebook post about dogs
- Taylor: One concern raised was from family that lives Wagnalls Run. Concerned dog would run over when children playing.
- Taylor: Concerns about people not cleaning up after dog waste. However that is not against the state law.

#### C) Handsfree Cellular Devices Ordinance Bexley

- Brown to Chief Barton: "What can you do to enforce that (a handsfree ordinance), do you have to see them do it?"
- Chief: The way Columbus is enforcing it is , as long as the phone is in your hand its considered texting. Officer does have to see it.

#### D) Marijuana petition

- Taylor: A person came to the village to trying to circulate around a petition attempting to enact an ordinance that changes how much marijuana one can possess, and lowering the level of the crime and the penalties. If he gets enough signatures it goes to the board of elections.
- Taylor: The man claimed the village had to do a variety of things otherwise we were violating various laws. But the board of elections will let us know if there is any action we need to take.

### **Old Business:**

- A) Second 'Second Reading An Ordinance adopting a New Policy and Procedures Manual for the Village of Lithopolis and repealing Ordinance 16-19.
- B) Third Reading Appointing Ed Van Vickle as Village Administrator and repealing Ordinance 17-17

- Taylor: "We will need a motion."
- Wynkoop: "So moved."
- Taylor: "Second?"
- Belek: "Second/"
- *All council members approved the motion. (Long was not present.)*

- C) Second 'Second Reading An Ordinance Providing Group Health Insurance for Village employees and repealing Ordinance 19-18
- D) Second Reading An Ordinance creating standard benefits and pay-grades for employees in the Village of Lithopolis and repealing Ordinance 11-18.

**New Business:**

- A) An Ordinance authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a contract with Fairfield County Soil and Water Conservation District to provide services related to compliance with the Village SWPPP plans and MS4 requirements.
- Zircher question directed to Van Vickle: "Did you change it to Village Administrator?"
  - Van Vickle: No. There are 6 minimum standards, one of which is education. In our SWPP plan what we said we were going to do was do class instruction to every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in the intermediate school about storm water and policies. It also covers community outreach, and requires a public meeting to be held to do outreach. We want to use the Soil and Water contract because they have 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum they use in Pickerington and other places because they already have one and it would be reinventing wheel to create our own. Contract provides for them to do the 4<sup>th</sup> grade instruction, for them to supply us with newsletter inserts, and for them to hold the public meeting.
  - Second Part: Subdivision Platt Review-Since the EPA standards have changed so when they come to review the SWPPP plan. Soil and Water does these reviews of SWPPP plans, Fairfield County, Pickerington, etc. The people who do this do nothing other than Soil and Water stuff. They're most qualified to do it.

*Long arrives at 7:58pm*

- Zircher: Do you anticipate that this cost us less and is it more efficient because we are not re-inventing the wheel?
- Van Vickle: In terms of the education portion, we either have them do it or we fail to be EPA Compliant. We haven't been complaint in 2018 or 2019. Trying to put

this plan in place so we might get it done in '19 but certainly be compliant in 2020.

- Van Vickle on Alternatives: Education: is either they do it, or we do nothing. Plan review: they do it, or we do. The engineer bills us by the hour. Fairly confident Soil and Water would be cheaper than the engineer. Further, Van Vickle believes Soil and Water would deliver a better work product.
  - Taylor: Soil and Water people know the soil properties because they're doing various things with the soil throughout the county on a regular basis and therefore are better equipped to let us know what issues the village will run into.
- B) An Ordinance authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a contract with South Central Power to provide three additional lights in the Hawks Nest Subdivision → postponed because Van Vickle did not get the price information directly from South central, so this will be addressed later when prices set in stone.
- C) Amendment presented by Wynkoop: Resolution requiring that Ordinances and Resolutions presented to Council be numbered prior to being voted upon and if passed by Council be signed and dated in accordance with the state law and the village polices in declaring it an emergency.
- Browning: Wynkoop has it as a first reading tonight so since emergency language has been added lets leave it for next meeting if council wants to enact it as an emergency.
  - Taylor: Its been confusing talking about things and unsure of where we are because numbers not attached, so that is the purpose of this Amendment.

### **Officer Reports:**

#### **Fiscal Officer:**

- Brown: (Wolin requests zoning variance hearing at 7pm before next council meeting on 10/8).
  - *\*Wolin out sick, so Brown was communicating message on behalf of Wolin, the Fiscal Officer.*
- Kidwell: might not be able to make it
- Belek: Can we have 5/6?
- Taylor: yes
- Van Vickle: it's basically a non conforming use. Council has to award or fail to award the non conforming use. So council acts as the board of zoning and recommends to itself and either passes or not the non-conforming use. It just requires a date because Village must make public announcements

### **Village Administrator:**

- Letter on water leak on Faulkner drive
  - 50,000 gallons a day going out the hole in that pipe in a week
  - unsure exactly how long the leak has been going and how much water has been lost.
  - Will continue to do calculations. Once total amount calculated will invoice Westport for the water and the cost of the repairs.
  - Topsoil today and filled in holes. Putting seed and mulch on top of it.
- Sewer lift stations
  - Pump was installed for \$3,000 or \$4000.. It's failing now. Covers Stony Bluff and Rolling Acers. It's acting like a clogged pump. Will cost another \$300 to pull it out and figure out what is wrong. Put reminder in the Newsletter: Don't flush flushable wipes, they're not flushable.
- Hawks nest- put a pit meter in the front of the property where lots of water is coming out. Has not had opportunity to go back and read it yet to compare it to the household meter to see if water is coming from the water line.
- Because of all the water lost at Faulkner an appropriation will be needed to add money to filtration fund for the water plant. Lost 12-20 lbs of salt softening water over last 3 weeks to pour in the hole there. Will need to buy more salt.
- Street paving project
  - Remove wheels or pave over the top? Must remove, but that was an addition. Once they dig in, add more gravel wasn't in the quote.
  - Brown: could they do it during fall break. 10-13<sup>th</sup> of October?
  - Van Vickle will urge them to do
- Long: What happened on Columbus street with the steel plate?
  - Van Vickle: The gas company was putting a gas tap in. The main line is in our street. So they had to put a new line in.

### **Chief Barton**

Agencies meet to discuss traffic safety issues. Sends Officer Rodrick to keep getting better traffic safety devices on 674.

- Trying to get state patrol to increase presence on Lithopolis Rd between the Village and Green Castle.

- Indorse candidate for best scarecrow. Officer Strawbones will be hanging from a poll at Lithopolis Police Department.
- Public question about: Speed meter on Orwell?
  - Its from sheriff office and Chief will call Sargent and try to get it moved.

**Round Robin:**

- Wynkoop: “Is there anyway we can start charging the people at Rolling Acers and Stoney Block? Ridiculous for everybody in the Village to be paying to repair their problems when they obviously don’t heed your advice.”
  - Van Vickle: We would have to do a special assessment. That’s not something the Administrator can do. So we would need a special assessment.
  - Wynkoop: I think it is something we might want to consider looking into.

Motion to adjourn by Wynkoop.

Second by Long.

Roll Call: Brown, Kidwell, Long, Wynkoop, Zircher.

Meeting adjourned at 08:22 PM EST.