

Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

December 30, 2019

Mayor Marty Lucas called the meeting to order, Mayor Lucas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Marty Lucas, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn, Jordan Castello, Administrator Dirk Davis, Chuck Little, Cindy Foose, Carol Merritt
Absent: Solicitor Jeffrey Menoski,

Guest(s)

Stephanie Castello, Pete Busack, Phil Castello, Samantha Burkhead, Dick Quinlin, Shirley Lucas, Carson Lucas, Jane Lucas, Callie Lucas, Judge Frank Fegiato, Wes Doudna, Lorrie Doudna

Reports

The Fiscal Officer E-Mailed Fund Status, Cash Summary by Fund, Fund Ledger, Payroll, Receipt Register & YTD Appropriation status reports to Council Members, Administrator, Fire Chief & Mayor. Jay Van Horn made a motion to approve the November 2019 Meeting Minutes and December Special Meeting Minutes, seconded by Carol Merritt, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Administrator Dirk Davis informed council that we need to look into getting new Christmas street lights next year. Our town lights are in bad shape and we will also need to put new outlets on the electric poles.

Dirk stated that we need to sign a contract for the water meter upgrade by January 31st. Dirk stated that we Dave and Theresa went over to Belmont and seen their system and how it was working and it took a while to work out the kinks. Dirk suggested that we vote on signing the contract and decide which direction to go to pay for this at the next meeting. Dirk stated that his options are to access a surcharge with an equal share to each resident, pay for it with gas and oil royalties, or increase water rates. Jay stated that we need to move on this tonight and stated that he would prefer to put on a surcharge and spread it out over a year. Jay stated that the gas and oil direction sounds nice but he would rather put that money back and draw interest and save it to apply towards grant matches and other projects that need to be done. Jordan suggested that we pay for half from the gas money and put on a surcharge for the other half. Fiscal Officer Burkhead stated that he calculated that if we put on a surcharge of \$2.50 per resident per month that 12 months of this would bring in about \$15,000 and that would cover most of the costs of the upgrade. Mayor Lucas asked that if we put on the surcharge to pay for this upgrade, after we receive the funds to pay it off, would the surcharge come off. Jay stated that yes it would. Rick stated that we are limited on the oil and gas money and we are not really receiving all that much at the moment. Rick stated that if we spend this money, when it's gone, it's gone. Stephanie Castello stated that in her small family they don't use as much water so they should not be charged the same amount as someone with a higher usage. Rick and Mayor Lucas suggested that we hold a finance meeting within a week and decide which the best way to proceed is. Jordan Castello made a motion to proceed with signing of the contract for the upgrades, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes.

Dirk informed council that there is a 6 inch storm drain coming off of Gail Avenue that runs into the old school football field. Dirk stated that Bethesda could have had to pay for the entire replacement of this line but Mr. Braido has offered to pay for 50% of the costs and then run it into a catch basin to the dry pond. Dirk stated that the total cost of the replacement is \$4090.00 and have would be \$2045.00. Dirk stated that this is the replacement of a collapsed existing line. Chuck Little made a motion to approve to pay for half of the repairs, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes.

Fiscal Officer Burkhead presented council with Ordinance 2019-7 which is the 2020 housekeeping and pay rates ordinance. Rick stated that he updated names of employees and any rate changes made throughout 2019. Jordan Castello made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-7, seconded by Jordan Castello, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes. Rick asked council to approve supplemental appropriations for the fire truck bond fund of \$500,000, and \$40,000 for the general fund due to oil and gas. Jay Van Horn made a motion to approve the supplemental appropriations, seconded by Carol Merritt, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes. Rick informed council that we need to appoint two council members to the fire dependents fund board for Bethesda. Ruth and Jordan agreed to be on the board. Rick asked for council to approve a transfer of \$3000 from General Fund to the Police Fund to help with wages. Chuck Little made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Jay Van Horn, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Chuck Little – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes.

Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council (Continued)

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Chief Pete Busak informed council that there were 14 citations of which 7 were in Bethesda. Pete stated that he and Jeff are working on a house on Oak Street which is falling in. Pete stated that he found the owner of the property and spoke to their attorney and informed them that the house is being condemned and Pete sent him a dozen pictures to show the status of the property. Pete stated that he sent these to Jeff also. Pete stated that he informed the owner that if they deed the property over to the village, that the village would tear it down. Pete stated that the property goes up for sale on Monday and he doesn't figure it will sell. Dirk commended Pete for his work on this. Pete stated that the Dodge charger has blown a head gasket and it was taken to Tyre Boys to have it fixed. Pete stated that the car has 145k miles on it. Pete stated that the Ford Explorer needed to have the push bar fixed on it. Pete stated that a mouse also chewed some of the wiring on the Explorer that needed to be repaired. Pete stated that he attended an autism awareness class which was sponsored by Sheriff Lucas and the class was very informative.

Mayor Lucas stated that this is his last meeting. Marty thanked everyone for being here and welcomed the new Mayor Samantha. Mayor Lucas thanked Judge Fregiato for being here to swear in the new mayor. Marty stated that he has met and worked with a lot of good people. Marty stated that we have had some bumps in the road but overall we have accomplished a lot of great things. Marty stated that none of these would have happened without the work of everyone who works for the village. Marty thanked those who he worked with on a daily basis and he has enjoyed it. Marty stated that the people who are here day to day are the backbone of the village. Marty thanked his family. Marty stated that they have had to deal with him when he comes home upset or aggravated and for the time that he has missed with them.

Judge Fregiato swore in the new mayor Samantha Burkhead. Judge Fregiato congratulated Samantha. Mayor Lucas presented Samantha a gavel and name plate for her. Marty congratulated Samantha and told her that if she ever needed help that she could call him anytime. Samantha thanked Marty for everything he has done for the town and that she will call him if she needs anything.

Judge Fregiato swore in the two new council members for 2020, Rod Miller, and Cindy Foose. Judge Fregiato congratulated Cindy and Rod.

Dick Quinlin stated that Belmont, Bethesda, Morristown, and Lafferty responded to a call today where a horse fell into an in the ground pool and spend 30 minutes in ice cold water. Dick stated that the horse was finally coaxed out of the pool. Dick stated that the horse is doing fine and that everyone worked as a team and was able to pull off a good thing by saving the horse.

Rick announced that on January 7th at 6:00 there will be a special meeting to approve the 2020 budget and appoint a council president.

Motion to pay bills by Jay Van Horn, 2nd by Cindy Foose, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Jay Van Horn, 2nd by Chuck Little, with a unanimous vote.

The next meeting will be Thursday January 23rd, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Marty Lucas

Fiscal Officer Ricky W. Burkhead Jr.