

## Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

April 12, 2023

Mayor Samantha Burkhead called the meeting to order, Samantha led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Roll Call

Present: Jay Van Horn, Ruth Saffell, Mayor Samantha Burkhead, Cindy Foose, Rod Miller, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Solicitor Shaheen, Carol Merritt, Administrator Dirk Davis

Absent: Zach Gaston

### Guest(s)

Jordan Castello, Stephanie Castello, Phil Castello, Chuck Little, Dave Green, Lynette Lucas, Chris Hunt

### 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. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

### Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Lynette Lucas asked when something is going to be done with the Burghy and Phillips junkyards. Samantha stated that she would have to police take a look at them.

Chuck Little stated that people are asking where the police officers are. Samantha stated that the schedule is on the board and Andy has been working regularly as and Chris is out for a bit.

Dirk presented the administrator's monthly report to council:

- ODNR dam reports have been sent out to everyone and it may be 6 months to a year before the fall report.
- Dirk called for two estimates for Gail Avenue from Parnell and Wilson Blacktop. Mr. Shaheen stated sent a letter to Pike's Paving and asked them if they would let us know in writing if they intend to fix the road.
- Dirk has to get a hold of Zach Gust to install the Comcast voicemail system.
- Dirk and Dave have been in contact with Jeremy Yeager who built the Belmont County Sewer Plant. Dirk sent out prices for the parts and we are waiting on the shaft to be sent to us on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The UV Light system has been running at 2/3 for a while now. Dave has prices to get this system back up to 100%. The bulbs are burning out by overflowing water. The price per trip to install is \$2,400. The parts are \$12,000 and the contract for the technician to show up once a year for five years for maintenance is \$3,000. Rod Miller made a motion to approve the contract and the purchase of the parts, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.
- We have 30 days from April first to find a Class 2 sewer operator and then we will have to file another extension. We have no word back from one person who was interested.
- Dirk handed out water profiles for several water meters. Dirk stated that the daily numbers are back up to 100k. Dirk stated that the front page is a lot of our water loss which is Abby's Crossing at 31,000 gallons. Dirk stated that the billing is a month behind and that will be paid next month. Dirk stated that Milmar Trailer Court 24,000 gallons in seven days. Rick stated that none of the water usage on these reports is water loss to the village because these gallons were billed. Rick stated that it is a loss to the customer but not the village. Rick stated that the village water loss is still around 50% as of last month comparison. Rod asked Rick about how much he calculated that we were losing per month. Rick stated that since August 2022 we have average about 1.5 million gallons each month. Rick stated that in November we lost 1.9 million gallons. Rick stated that we billed 1.83 million gallons and the county water bill was 3.73 million gallons, which is a 51% water lost and a cost to the village of \$10,127.00 for this month. Everyone had a discussion about the water loss the village has been having. Jordan asked if the leaks were on lines that were not replaced. Dirk stated that the only one was on Chestnut Street and the rest were on service lines.
- There is no information on the Ohio Grant for sewer equipment.

Dave Green stated that the EPA sewer plant inspection audit went well. The EPA came and was happy with the plant and the equipment. The EPA recommended a flow meter be calibrated. Dave stated that the technician is coming next week to calibrate it. Dave stated that the five year lease to operate as a sewer plant was renewed and sent in. Dave stated that the plant sludge has been moved to the approved application site south of town. The generator on Second Street is installed. Dave and Theresa are working with the trailer courts to help with water leaks they have. Dave stated that there was a yard hydrant at the park by the large shelter that was vandalized. Dave stated that there was 70,000 gallons lost at this hydrant. Dave stated that the annual consumer confidence report has been prepared and will be sent to the EPA and residents next week. Dave stated that after a water leak repair last week a resident had a concern about cloudy water. Dave stated that he tested that water at each resident's houses and then took the samples to the county to test and then returned the test results to the residents. Dave stated that since John Bates has left, he is doing the work at the sewer plant and performing the testing and turning the results into the EPA. Dave stated that he is interested in taking classes to get his class 2 license. Dave stated that as long as we are looking for an operator, we can file extensions. Water loss in the town was discussed in length. Jay asked if there was any chance of faulty meters. Dave stated that Glenwood Village Apartments does not have a meter because their broke and when the water lines were installed, Newman would not install a new meter due to the meter pit location. We currently estimate that water account. Jay asked how long this meter has been out of service. Dirk stated that it has been out of service 2-3 years. Council discussed how long it would take to get a new meter installed.

## Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council (Continued)

April 12, 2023

Solicitor Michael Shaheen presented Resolution 2023-1 to participate in the state salt purchase contract for 2023. Cindy made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-1, seconded by Carol, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Mr. Shaheen presented Ordinance 2023-2 which removes the requirement for a front license plate in Bethesda. Cindy Foose made a motion to declare this evening the first reading of Ordinance 2023-2, seconded by Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Mr. Shaheen stated that he sent a letter to Columbia Gas. Columbia Gas would like to use 1/5 acre of property for 60 days and they agreed to pay us \$2,500. Mr. Shaheen sent a letter to Pike’s Paving detailing what needs to be done and asking them for a time frame and offered to work with them. Mr. Shaheen stated that he has still not heard back from them yet.

Fiscal Officer Burkhead informed council that the Street Levy and the Fire Levy is up for renewal. Rick stated that the Street levy should have been placed on the May ballot but he didn’t have a notification it needed done. Rick stated that the Fire levy can also be placed on the fall ballot also. Rick will prepare the resolutions and send to everyone for both levies to be placed on the November ballot. Rick informed council that Wesbanco is switching the village to ACH positive pay instead of the ACH block that is currently on the bank accounts. Rick stated that this protects us from someone withdrawing anything from the bank account without approval. Rick stated that the park was awarded a \$5,000 grant from JB Green Team for the purchase of recycled plastic parking curbs, and a few benches for the park. Rick stated that due to all of the water loses since August, the water fund may need some financial help within the next month or two to stay out of the red.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead stated that the park board intends to have a park cleanup day on Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 and everyone is encouraged to come help out. Samantha thanked everyone who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt. Samantha thanked Woodsfield Savings Bank for their donation to the Egg Hunt.

Jay Van Horn presented applications for EMT’s for Mackenzie Fultz. Rod Miller made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Cindy Foose, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Jay presented an application for Stephen Williams for EMT. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Rod Miller, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Fire Chief Chris Hunt stated that he would like to update the wages for the EMS Department to \$16 for EMT, \$17 for Advanced, and \$20 for Paramedic. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve these wage increases effective 04/02/23, seconded by Carol Merritt, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Chris stated that he is having issues with people parking on the corners of streets. Chris and Dirk will get together and ride around and look at the issue locations. Mr. Shaheen recommended to take a police officer with them as well. Jordan asked if there was a limit as to how many cars a resident could park on the street. Mr. Shaheen stated that there would not be without some limits legislated.

Motion to pay bills by Cindy Foose, 2nd by Ruth Saffell, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Cindy Foose, 2nd by Ruth Saffell, with a unanimous vote.

**The next meeting will be Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.**

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Mayor Samantha Burkhead

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Fiscal Officer Ricky W. Burkhead Jr.