

Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

January 11, 2023

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

Roll Call

Present: Jay Van Horn, Ruth Saffell, Carol Merritt, Mayor Samantha Burkhead, Cindy Foose, Rod Miller, Police Chief Chris Storm, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Cole Antalok, Zach Gaston, Administrator Dirk Davis

Absent:

Guest(s)

Jordan Castello, Stephanie Castello, Phil Castello, Chuck Little, Linda Reeves, Jeanette Lucas, Alan Stonebreaker

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

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Alan Stonebreaker complained to council that there are three or four cars that are very loud and are revving their engines at midnight and after. Alan stated that there is also a four wheeler and a dirt bike that fly up Oak Street. Samantha stated that Chris is aware and is watching for them.

Chuck Little discussed the person on the dirt bike on Oak street as well. Chuck stated that the person has little children on the bike with them. Samantha stated that Chris is watching the situation.

Dirk presented his monthly report to council:

- There is no ODNR report on the park lake yet.
- Dirk stated that we need to decide if we want Pike's to fix the road or to give us money to have it fixed. Jay stated that he would get with Dirk and they could look at the road and decide what needed fixed so that we can get an estimate to have the repairs made.
- Mr. Farrabee contacted Dirk about installing a water line for a housing development. Dirk provided him with a check list of items that will need to be done before the village can consider doing this. One item is to obtain permission from the county water district.
- Dirk stated that he would like to have a new phone system so each person would have their own voicemail. Jay made a motion to approve Dirk to look into this and report back prices, seconded by Rod Miller, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes.
- Dave Green gave a business card to a gentleman who may be interested in the sewer operator position. Dave Brown from Bethesda is interested in taking classes to get licensed in water and sewer. Dirk explained that we have contacted countless people and are trying to find a class two operator.
- Dirk presented the water rate ordinance. Rick, Dirk, and the water department employees looked over the financials and Rick conducted a water rate study to accommodate having to pay Quality Environmental Services nearly \$80,000 a year to operator our sewer plant. Rick stated that the new rates would be \$.12 per ten gallons for both water and sewer effective the next billing cycle. Cindy Foose made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-2 the water and sewer rate ordinance, seconded by Carol Merritt, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes.
- Jordan and Stephanie complained about a chlorine smell from their water. Dirk stated that he would contact the county and pass the complaint along.
- Many leaks were fixed last month. Grandview had a leaking lateral. Maple had a leaking line in a crawl space. South Main had a leaking lateral line. SR 147 had a leaking ¾" lateral line. Chestnut Street had two 4" line leaks. Epworth Cottages has a master meter cracked which leaked. All of these have been fixed. The water consumption was an average of 122k gallons per day and it is now treading around 92k per day. Dirk stated that there are four residents with leaking toilets we need to fix them. Dirk stated that he is going to see if insurance will cover any water losses.

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Rick presented the 2023 budgets and annual appropriations for council's approval. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve the budgets and appropriations, seconded by Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes. Rick stated that Belomar would like to use the community room to present a program that provides housing rehabilitation assistance for Belmont County Residents. Rick asked if council would be interested in waiving the rental fee for the room. Cindy Foose made a motion to waive the rental fee for Belomar, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes. Larry Taylor would like to hold public hearings on the gas aggregation program and will discuss the Operation and Governance Plans for the natural gas program on February 8th from 12-2 and again 4-6. Rick presented an MOU between the Land Bank and Bethesda which was received from Mr. Shaheen. Rod made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the MOU, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead presented council with the 2023 committee assignments. Samantha stated that a new council president needs to be elected. Cindy made nominated Jay to be council president, seconded by Ruth, Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes. Samantha stated that she would like to look into doing some fund raising for a new police cruiser. Samantha stated that we just spent \$1,600 on repairs for the current cruiser. Dirk stated that we should look into two police vehicles eventually. Rod made a motion to advertise the sale of the Dodge Charger, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes.

Police Chief Chris Storm stated that we have not had a cruiser for about a week as it needed repairs. Chris stated that there were 30 traffic stops in December and 19 traffic citations and one citation for a loose dog. Chris stated that last year there were 219 tickets written.

The ordinance committee was discussed and the procedures for property and building issue was discussed. Everyone decided that they would like issues be brought before council, voted on by council and then turned over to the Police Chief to deliver to notices.

Jay stated that Neil has retired and that Chris Hunt is officially the chief now. Jay asked Dirk where the road signs for the street behind the firehouse and the street across from the lodge. Dirk stated that he is going to get the signs printed.

Rod reported that it seems like Pike Paving is watching how they park at the four way stop.

Ruth Saffell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel wages, at 8:21 p.m., seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay - Yes, Ruth - Yes, Carol - Yes, Cindy - Yes, Rod - Yes, Zach - Yes.

At 8:41 p.m. Mayor Samantha Burkhead declared executive session over.

Council noted changes to the wage rates for the public works crew, mayors court clerk, fiscal officer, janitor, and police department. Ruth Saffell made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes. Cindy Foose made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-1 the 2023 housekeeping ordinance, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes.

Motion to pay bills by Zach Gaston, 2nd by Rod Miller, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Cindy Foose, 2nd by Rod Miller, with a unanimous vote.

The next meeting will be Wednesday February 8th, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead

Fiscal Officer Ricky W. Burkhead Jr.