

Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

May 10, 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, Zach Gaston, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Carol Merritt, Administrator Dirk Davis, Cole Antalok

Absent: Solicitor Shaheen

Guest(s)

Jordan Castello, Stephanie Castello, Phil Castello, Ron Lucas, Jeanette Lucas

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

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Ron Lucas complained to council about his neighbor's junkyard and the junk around their house. Ron stated that Phillip's and Burghy's is out of control. Ron stated that the house across from him needs the grass mowed.

Fiscal Officer Burkhead presented the 2023-2024 Belmont County EMS Contract renewal for approval. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the renewal, seconded by Cindy Foose, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Rick presented Resolution 2023-1 which is a 1.5 mil Street levy for first collection in 2023 paid in 2024. Carol Merritt made a motion to approve the resolution and to submit it to the county auditor, seconded by Ruth Saffell, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Rick presented Resolution 2023-2 which is a 3.5 mil Fire levy for first collection in 2024 paid in 2025. Rod Miller made a motion to approve the resolution and to submit it to the county auditor, seconded by Cindy Foose, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Rick presented Ordinance 2023-2 which is the front license plate ordinance for the second reading. Rod Miller made a motion to declare tonight the second reading, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Dirk presented the administrator's monthly report to council:

- Dirk gave everyone a copy of the Estimate for Gail Ave from Parnell and Associates.
- Zach Gust is going to work with Comcast to install the new phone voicemail system on May 11th.
- In the last part of May, Jeremy Yeager of Border Patrol will be in to help install the drive shaft at the sewer plant.
- The UV Light system parts have been delivered and will be installed as soon as the fellow from Canada comes.
- Dave is working on studying for a class 2 sewer licenses. Dirk filed an extension on May 2nd and didn't receive a response.
- Mr. Shaheen sent a letter to Columbia Gas for the right of way use. Dirk recommends we sign the agreement.
- Dirk wrote a letter to the Belmont County Water District pertaining to the North Johnson Road water line extension. The county thinks this would be great with another extension on Old Hickory Road. Dave contacted the EPA for a permit to install. Mr. Farrabee was notified that he needs to hire an engineer for proper drawings and plans before this line can be installed.
- We received notification for Larry Taylor that we have an electric aggregation rate of \$0.0694 per KWH thru 2025 for all residents not currently in a plan. If any resident does not want to participate they have been sent opt out letters. Anyone can cancel at any time after this goes into effect.
- Dave and Theresa met with OMEGA on May 5th and discussed the downtown revitalization project and the park lake and dam project. We have switched priority to the park lake project which is estimated to cost around \$750,000.00
- Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve a \$300 quote from Home Enhancer to clean the city building and clock tower exteriors, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.
- John Bates sent a bill for 9.5 hours in April for when he helps Dave. Council discussed a pay rate. Rod Miller made a motion to pay John \$26.50 per hour and asked for more documentation of what John is doing for us, seconded by Cindy Foose, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller - Yes, Cindy Foose - Yes, Zach Gaston - Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

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Cole presented the Columbia Gas temporary easement. Cole stated that the easement is from July 1st through August 15th this year. Columbia Gas is offering us \$2,500 and the property will be returned to original form once their project is completed. Rod Miller made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Cold stated that we have not received a response from Pike’s Paving as of today. Dirk is waiting on a second estimate from Wilson Blacktop. Mr. Shaheen will send the estimate from Parnell’s to Pikes.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead stated that the Memorial Day Parade will be at 11:00 am and lineup will be at 10:30 on Virginia Street. Samantha stated that there was an issue with kids getting into the old Landmark building. She contacted Landmark and they are going to put locks on the building and remove ladders from the silos.

Rod stated that the house on corner of Willow and Lake was purchased and someone is restoring it.

Jay Van Horn stated that the annual chicken BBQ for the fire department will be on Memorial Day and suggested that people place pre orders.

Zach Gaston made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel wages and pending litigation, at 7:59 p.m., seconded by Rod Miller, Jay - Yes, Ruth - Yes, Carol – Yes, Cindy – Yes, Rod – Yes, Zach - Yes.

At 8:14 p.m. Mayor Samantha Burkhead declared executive session over.

Cindy Foose made a motion to end Andy Miller’s probation, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes. Cindy Foose made a motion o increase Andy’s pay by \$1.00 an hour effective next pay, seconded by Zach Gaston, Jay Van Horn - Yes, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Rod Miller – Yes, Cindy Foose – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt - Yes.

Motion to pay bills by Ruth Saffell, 2nd by Zach Gaston, with a unanimous vote.
Motion to adjourn by Jay Van Horn, 2nd by Cindy Foose, with a unanimous vote.
The next meeting will be Wednesday June 14th, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Samantha Burkhead

Fiscal Officer Ricky W. Burkhead Jr.