

Regular Meeting of Belmont

Village Council

February 2, 2016

Mayor Stanley Sobel called the meeting to order and Mayor Sobel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Stan Sobel, Fiscal Officer Rick Burkhead, Grant Williams, Ron Woods, Dan Scott, Mike Murphy, Shaun Bruce, Lorie Grob, Solicitor Lindsey Tomlan,

Guest(s)

Eric Smith, TJ Schultz, Kenny Davis, Richard Thompson, Barb Gornick, Becky Boughnek, Carol Earlewine, Lorie Grob, Bob Mills, Jim Cogar, Linda Cogar, Paul Wilkinson, Missy Murphy, Lori Bertus, Shaun Bruce Rod Roby, Cheryl Moore, Wayne Moore, Kaye Hall, Sam Williams, Amy Purdom, Scott Hughes, Jeff Doty

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Dan Scott made a motion to approve the December Regular and January Special council meeting minutes, seconded by Mike Murphy, with a unanimous vote.

Grant Williams made a motion to appoint Lorie Grob to a council seat, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes. Dan Scott made a motion to appoint Shaun Bruce to a council seat, seconded by Mike Murphy, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Grant Williams - No, Ron Woods - No. Mayor Sobel broke the tie with a Yes vote. Solicitor Tomlan swore in Lorie Grob and Shaun Bruce to their new council seats.

Mayor Sobel read the meeting minutes from the December Regular Meeting and the January Special Meeting.

Fiscal Officer Rick Burkhead gave everyone an update on the finances for the last week. Rick stated that the bills for December and January have all been paid and were mailed out on Sunday. The payroll that is four weeks later has been paid and mailed out to employees on Friday. W-2's for 2015 have been worked up and mailed out to employees on Sunday. Rick stated that there is a meeting with the State Auditor's Office at 8:30 in the morning pertaining to the 2013-2014 audit. Grant asked if the

audit can be made public and posted somewhere for residents to see. Rick stated that once the audit is finalized and released by the state auditor's office then it will be required to be posted for the public. Rick stated that after the meeting, he will be able to close out 2015 and proceed with working up the budget and 2016 permanent appropriations. Rick discussed getting a village credit card for the Street Department, Water Department, and the Mayor. Rick stated that its usually easier for employees to go purchase what they need to conduct business rather than them pay for it out of their pocket and be reimbursed or have to wait to have a check written. Kenny Davis and Mayor Sobel agreed that this would be an easier path. This is going to be tabled until next meeting after a credit card use policy is drafted.

Mayor Sobel stated that he is looking into working with Bethesda on a Police Protection Contract. Chief Eric Smith gave a brief over view of what ideas he has for the contract. Eric stated that by having a contract with Bethesda, Bethesda Police Department will be able to answer calls in Belmont, even when there is no officer on duty in Belmont. Bethesda operates two full time officers that would have the ability to respond quickly. Mayor Sobel stated that he was notified in January that the Belmont Police Department was inactive due to no paperwork being filed. Greg Clark was sworn in on January 15th and the paperwork has been filed and the Police Department in now active. A resident asked who they should call for police services. Eric stated that you should call 911 and the dispatcher will dispatch the closest on duty officer.

Kenny Davis stated that an Ordinance was drawn up in December and that the numbers for the water and sewer rates are correct on those Ordinances. Solicitor Tomlan stated that she has the Ordinances and that the rates reflect for water for 0-2000 gallons is \$14.92 and over 2000 is \$14.92 plus \$5.47 per thousand. The sewer rates are \$35.95 for the first 2000 gallons and then \$7.80 per thousand after that. The meter charge is \$1.24. Grant Williams made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. Mike Murphy made a motion to approve 2016.2 which is the new Water Rates, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. Ron Woods made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Dan Scott, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. Dan Scott made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016.1 which is the new Sewer Rates, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes.

Kenny Davis stated that the new rates are effective February 1st

and will be reflected on the March 1st billing. Kenny issued an apology for his temper recently. Kenny stated that the whole situation that the village was left in has been very stressful. Kenny stated that he sat through training on the water billing software. Kenny stated that Theresa Thornberry has been helping as well to figure everything out and moving forward. Kenny stated that bills were sent out for February 1st. Kenny stated that there may be a few minor mistakes but the water department will take care of those issues. Kenny stated that there are \$7,500 worth of delinquent water bills in Belmont. Kenny stated that there were 28 delinquent notices sent out on Friday. Kenny stated that we all have to take part and pay our bills. The village has to pay the county for processing sewer and for the extra water needed to supply the village. Kenny stated that the water department is going to mandate that at least twice a year your bill must be at a zero balance. Kenny stated that repeat offenders have to stop taking advantage of the village and they will be shut off. Kenny stated that it has been very stressful and it's been a rather large learning curve. Kenny stated that what happened with the prior administrator was childish, self centered, and unfair to the community. A resident asked if it would be possible to have a drop box for the water payments so that people can pay their bill on off hours. Mayor Sobel stated that we are going to look at doing things like this.

Regular Meeting of Belmont Village Council (continued)

February 2, 2016

Greg Clark introduced himself to council. Greg works ten hours per week for the Belmont PD. Greg works part time for Shadyside and full time for St. Clairsville.

Fire Chief Bob Mills from the Belmont VFD presented a monthly report of calls. Chief Mills stated that their E-Squad has a fuel and exhaust leak and is being fixed. Chief Mills stated that the Village of Bethesda is loaning Belmont their spare Squad. Chief Mills stated that the department is past due on purchasing a new Squad. Chief Mills stated that the Fire Department was awarded \$4,500 from the Smith/Goshen Foundation to purchase air canisters. The Smith / Goshen foundation will be taking pictures at the Fire Department next week. The fire department has a new member going through basic/EMT, Cole Davia from Barnesville. Chief Mills presented the updated 2016 pay schedule/rates for the EMS for hourly rates and transport rates. Grant Williams made a motion to approve the pay schedule/rates, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. Ron Woods made a motion to approve pay rates in the amount of \$750 for Fire Chief and \$500 for Assistant Fire Chief annually, paid in monthly payments, and both will be eligible to

be paid for transport calls, seconded by Lorie Grob, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes.

Mayor Sobel stated that he wants to work to form committees to work on renovation projects for the park and playground. Mayor Sobel stated that he wants to revitalize the park and playground and once things settle down we will start planning for the future. Mayor Sobel contacted Joel Braido and Rob Barr and there are some things that need to be figured out pertaining to lots.

Mayor Sobel stated that Dan has a flat tire one day when he went to plow snow. Mayor Sobel stated that we need to be better prepared and have items on hand to deal with situations. Mayor Sobel applauded all of the employees who continued to perform their jobs for no pay for the entire month of January.

Mayor Sobel asked for a motion to add Ricky Burkhead as a user for all Wesbanco bank accounts. Ron Woods made a motion to authorize, seconded by Lorie Grob, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. Grant Williams made a motion to authorize Rick Burkhead to be a check signer for the Belmont Wesbanco bank accounts, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes.

Mayor Sobel asked Solicitor Tomlan if there are any outstanding contracts that the village is obligated to. Solicitor Tomlan stated that there are not. Grant Williams asked if there are any contract employees that work for the village. Solicitor Tomlan stated that everyone is an at will employee.

Jim Padgett with Local 188 Roofers is going to have his apprentices work on the roof tomorrow morning to being fixing the leaks on the roof. Mike Murphy made a motion to approve the Local 188 to work on the Belmont City Building, seconded by Dan Scott, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes. The Ohio Valley Waste Systems are going to donate a dumpster for the debris from the roof work. Mayor Sobel is going to have a mold and structural study done to see what needs repaired. Mayor Sobel reviewed a PowerPoint presentation covering the problems with leaking and mold within the building. Mayor Sobel stated that he doesn't know why or when the leaks started but we are going to have to get people involved to help with ideas and suggestions. Mayor Sobel stated that no path is going to be easy. It's not going to be easy to repair the building, but it will also not be easy to demolish and start over. Funds, EPA regulations, liability issues etc. also stand in the way. Mayor Sobel stated that it is all a work in progress and eventually with will be able to begin planning and making the big decisions.

Mayor Sobel stated that it is going to take the entire community to overcome the issues that are presented. A resident asked if Flushing was progressing with its old school house. Mayor Sobel stated that he thinks they are at a standstill.

Rick stated that he needs two council member to join the State Fire Marshalls Council on behalf of the Fire Department. Ron Woods and Lori Grob agreed to participate.

Mike Murphy made a motion to have all locks on the gym and city building changed, seconded by Ron Woods, Grant Williams - Yes, Ron Woods - Yes, Dan Scott - Yes, Mike Murphy - Yes, Shaun Bruce - Yes, Lorie Grob - Yes.

Motion to pay the bills by Dan Scott, 2nd by Mike Murphy, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Ron Woods, 2nd by Dan Scott, with a unanimous vote.

The next meeting will be Tuesday March 1st, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Stanley Sobel
Burkhead Jr.

Fiscal Officer Ricky W.