

Bowerston Village Council

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, August 15th, 2023

Council Attendance: Paula, Jon, Julie, Karen, Polly. Melody was absent, notified Mayor prior to meeting.

Other Officials: Janeen Scott, Jacquie Humphrey, Bart Busby, JJ Ong

Visitors: Adam Reardon, Jeremiah Warner and Allen Marcus

Adam was present at the meeting to discuss the levy that will be on the November ballot. Adam explained that the FD is staffed 24/7 and has been since July 1. The new levy will support this expense.

Contract is annual and is not guaranteed.

Regular Business Items

July Minutes, Paula made motion to approve, Julie seconded unanimous.

Payment of bills, Julie made motion to approve, Paula seconded, Unanimous by roll call vote.

Financial Report, Julie made motion to, Polly seconded unanimous by roll call vote.

Committee Reports

Julie made motion to approve Fiscal Officer resignation, Polly seconded, unanimous.

Jacquie reported that the finance committee found funds to hire full time utility operator and recommends that Council do so.

Paula reported that the personnel committee recommends hiring Jeremiah Warner as full-time utility operator.

1. Utility Operator Ordinance, Solicitor JJ Ong reviewed the ordinance with Council, 2023-1. Karen made motion to suspend rules of three readings and pass as an emergency measure, Julie seconded, unanimous.
2. Julie made motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-01, Polly seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Loan/Grant Status

Attached

Mayor's report

1. Jacquie reminded Council that the annual Records committee meeting is scheduled for next month.

Village Administrator's Report

1. Bart said that he has been contacted by Tom Slutz on behalf of the Village of Leesville, to run water to their sewer plant, they would like to know cost. Bart suggested that they pay for the materials and pit, we will install. They will pay to get the line where it needs to be. We will bill them for approved materials.
2. Jon made motion to waive tap fee, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
3. Bart reported that has a quote from Midco, to have our tanks \$7750.00 cleaned next year, if we sign now, the cost won't go up. Paul made motion to approve, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
4. Bart inquired of JJ if it will be difficult to get a temporary crossing at the railroad while the bridge is repaired, JJ gave advice on this matter. Reardon gave advise on FD access to the area.
5. Bart reported that it will be another 2-4 weeks for the truck repair.

Utility Clerk's Report

1. Janeen presented a report of July billings. She has a couple of issues to discuss with Council, one is a shut off at a residence of a deceased person, cannot find the shut off but she would like to make the accounts inactive, Paula made motion to approve this action, Karen seconded, unanimous.
2. There is an account in Leesville that has one curb stop with two shuts off (2 properties/accounts) that are being metered and read, Janeen needs Council approval to remove the meter, Julie made motion to approve, Jon seconded, unanimous.

Income Tax Administrator

1. Janeen said all is going well.

Fiscal Officer Report

1. Resolution 2023-14 for the Lead Line Service, Paula made motion to approve, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
2. Resolution 2023-15, for Bridge project, application is complete, Karen made motion to approve, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
3. Resolution 2023-16 USDA closing paperwork, Julie made motion to approve, Paula seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
4. Paula made motion to accept additional LGF revenue from Harrison County Budget Commission, Paula seconded, unanimous.

Solicitor's Report

1. JJ presented a water service agreement between the Village and Harrison County and explained it. He advised that a price for the water will need to be established and approved. Council to review and discuss with County.

2. JJ reported that the condemnation for the tank is prepared, there are too many people who own this property to get individual signatures.
3. JJ reported that he still does not have the easement agreements, he will pursue this further and be utilizing a law student to go door to door.
4. JJ reported that he is working on the FD contract with Leesville.
5. JJ presented Ordinance 2023-02, for his services, \$350.00 per month.
6. Paula made motion to suspend rules of three readings, Julie seconded, unanimous.
7. Julie made motion to approve ordinance 2023-002, Karen seconded, unanimous by roll call vote
8. Motion for Ong to enter into USDA Legal Services agreement, Paula made motion to approve, Polly seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
9. Ong reported that his office has been in touch with Mr. Zucal of Conotton Valley regarding the land acquisition and that this matter is moving along.

No Old Business

New Business

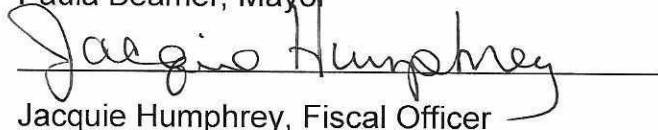
1. Bart reported that there is a damaged fire hydrant in Leesville and discussed demand for payment with Ong. There is a leak.
2. Jacquie presented her letter of resignation from the position of Mayor, Karen made motion to accept, Polly seconded, unanimous.
3. JJ administrated the Oath of Office to Paula to position of Mayor.
4. Paula called for appointment of Council President, Karen made motion to appoint Polly seconded by Juliet, unanimous by roll call vote with Polly abstaining.
5. Karen made motion to hire Jacquie as Fiscal Officer, Polly seconded, Polly and Karen voted yes, Jon and Julie abstained, motion passed.
6. Resolution 2023-17 OMEGA RTPO grant, to allow mayor to pursue funding, Julie made motion to approve, Jon seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Adjournment

Julie made motion adjourn, 7:03, Karen seconded.



Paula Beamer, Mayor



Jacquie Humphrey, Fiscal Officer