

Bowerston Village Council

Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Attendance: Council; Juliet Bryant, Karen Donovan, Jon Humphrey, Polly Wolfe. Mayor Paula Beamer, Income Tax/Utility Billing Administrator Janeen Scott, Fiscal Officer Jacquie Humphrey, Village Administrator Bart Busby, Utility Operator Jeremiah Warner and Solicitor James J Ong.

Visitors: Erin Wright of OMEGA and Don Quicksall of Quicksall Engineering, Chase Bryant, resident interested in filling Council seat.

Beamer advised Council that she was appointing Chase Bryant to a vacant Council seat expiring December 31, 2025. Ong administered the oath of office to Bryant.

Committee Report

1. Julie Bryant reported that the Engineer Selection Committee had met to evaluate submissions and recommend that the Village hire Quicksall Engineers.

Executives session 6:03 to discuss pending litigation.

6:11 return to regular session

Action Taken

2. Ong explained situation with EL Robinson and advised Council to agree to settlement. Motion by Julie Bryant, seconded by Jon Humphrey, unanimous.
3. Motion to hire Quicksall made by Jon Humphrey seconded by Donovan, unanimous.

Approval of regular January minutes Julie Bryant made motion to approve, Wolfe seconded, unanimous,

Motion to pay bills, Julie Bryant made motion, Wolfe seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Motion to accept financial report made by Julie Bryant seconded by Donovan, unanimous by roll call vote.

Mayor's Report:

1. Beamer requested approval of mileage reimbursement to Village Administrator for meeting in Cambridge (Mayor, VA and Utility Operator attending) Julie Bryant made motion, Donovan seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
2. Resolution 04-2024, Authorizing Mayor to enter into agreement on Village's behalf for CDBG grant funding, Jon Humphrey made motion, Julie Bryant seconded, unanimous.
3. Ordinance 2024-01, as emergency measure, Adopting Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan. Julie Bryant made motion to

suspend the rules and pass as an emergency measure, Jon Humphrey seconded, unanimous. Julie Bryant made motion to approve ordinance, Chase Bryant seconded, unanimous.

4. Resolution 05-2024, Authorizing Mayor to Sign ARC agreement on behalf of Village. Jon Humphrey made motion, Donovan seconded, unanimous.

Village Administrator's Report:

1. Busby apologized for not reporting at the January meeting that Nick Stevenson had resigned. Bart advised that Noah Smith has been hired and is working out well.
2. Busby reported that the water tanks have been cleaned.
3. Busby requested a reduction of water usage for customer with replaced meter. A discussion took place, Julie Bryant suggested splitting the difference and crediting the account, JonHumphrey seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
4. Busby reported that he has not had a response to his attempts to contact Conotton Valley's Superintendent regarding the proposed land acquisition of the former Bowerston Elementary property.
5. Wolfe made motion to accept Busby's report, Julie Bryant seconded, unanimous.

Utility Clerk's Report:

1. Janeen presented a report on monthly billing, Julie Humphrey made motion to approve, Wolfe seconded, unanimous.

Income Tax Administrator's Report:

1. Janeen presented a report on income tax activity and advised that she will report more at end of quarter.
2. Julie Humphrey made motion to accept report, Wolfe seconded, unanimous.

Fiscal Officer's Report:

1. Jacquie Humphrey presented Resolution #03-2024, approving Permanent Appropriations for 2024, Jon Humphrey made motion to accept, Julie Bryant seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
2. Jacquie Humphrey reported that 2023 is closed and all reports filed with State of Ohio, financial report availability advertised in newspaper
3. Ordinance 2024-02 Approval of the solid Waste Management plan, Julie Humphrey made motion to suspend rules and pass as an emergency measure, Chase Bryant seconded. Julie Bryant made motion to approve ordinance, Chase Bryant seconded, unanimous.
4. Donovan made motion to accept Jacquie Humphrey's report, Julie Bryant seconded, unanimous.

Loan/Grant Status Report:

1. Erin Wright, reported on grant funding applications that she has completed and submitted on the Village's behalf. She is also submitting a one-time funding opportunity for monies to put a new roof on the garage.
2. Wright reported that she will also be submitting an application to Sherrod Brown's office for the opportunity to be awarded \$500,000.00 to \$3M for the various projects in play. Erin suggested collecting letters of support from key stockholders. Busby said that he's spoken with Don Jones who is willing to assist, too.
3. Beamer reported that the Village was awarded H2Ohio grant funding that the Village did not get last year
4. RTPPO applications are being taken for roads and sidewalks, this can be used as leverage for further funding. We need to do this ourselves.
5. Jacquie Humphrey inquired about bringing the trail head into the Village, pretty tight this year, but possible future project.
6. Busby inquired of Ong how it would work if the Village applies for sidewalk replacement with property owners, Ong advised that the Village has the right to do this.

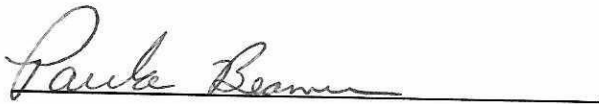
Old Business:

None

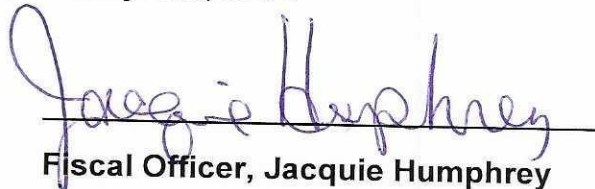
New Business:

1. Request to waive park building rental fee – Youth Group, Julie Bryant made motion to approve this request, Jon Humphrey seconded, unanimous by roll call vote
2. Accept donation from Fire Department of an old generator, Julie Humphrey made motion to accept, Donovan seconded, unanimous.
3. Beamer reported that the Township has requested using our website, feels that is too complicated, Ong advised that this would not work. A discussion took place and all agreed that the Township may submit request(s) to have information put on the Village's sign at the entrance to the Village.

Adjournment: Julie Humphrey made motion to adjourn, 6:42.



Mayor, Paula Beamer



Fiscal Officer, Jacquie Humphrey