

**Minutes**  
**Rules Committee**  
**July 12, 2021**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Committee chair Mike Hamilton called the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Committee members connected remotely were Mike Hamilton, Rick Foreman, and Chuck Keller.

**Also in Attendance:** Mayor Brad Nicodemus and VA Teri Wise. Police Chief Mike Tussey joined the meeting in progress. Fiscal Officer Brian Bibler was excused.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Keller made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021 meeting as written. Foreman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

**Visitors**

- None

**2021 Goals**

1. Cemetery project
  - The VA said that the summer help has been working to transfer the information in the old deed books to word documents and an excel spreadsheet.
2. Rules of Council
  - Nothing to report tonight.
4. Pay plan
  - The VA would like to discuss the Pay Plan at the next meeting in August since we are getting toward the end of the year. She will send information about the Pay Plan to everyone again before the next meeting.

**Old Business**

1. Annexation process
  - The VA said that she had a discussion with the Solicitor, and he agreed with the suggestion that Foreman made that no money be collected up front, but an agreement would have to be signed acknowledging a commitment. She said that if that is what the Committee wants to do, she will ask the Solicitor to create an annexation commitment agreement which would require the applicant to pay the Village for costs incurred if the applicant decided not to complete the process.
  - The Mayor said that the request for the Solicitor to proceed should be in the form of a motion.

Foreman made a motion to have the Solicitor create an annexation agreement which includes the stipulation that the applicant will have to pay costs if they drop out of the process. Hamilton seconded the motion.

- Keller mentioned that the Village could get a credit card number we could hold and only charge the card if they don't complete the process.
- The Mayor said that he liked that idea, but the Village would have to change the credit card agreement to allow for the storing of credit card numbers. The Village would also be required to take additional steps to secure that information.
- Keller said that would be a pain and wouldn't be worth the trouble.
- The Mayor said that most people who begin the annexation process go through with it.

There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

## **New Business**

### 1. New Federal Holiday – Juneteenth

- The VA said that this is a new holiday that Biden enacted. Some municipalities were able to give their employees the time of on short notice. She suggested that it be added to the employee manual since employees only get the holidays that Council approves. Juneteenth is observed on June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Keller asked how many holidays employees currently get.
  - The VA went to get a manual to check it.
- The Mayor suggested that it be made a floating holiday such that the employees could take it when they choose. That way the office would stay open unless all employees took that day. They would get one extra holiday that they could take anytime throughout the year as a floating holiday. June is when most of our projects are underway.
- Keller and Hamilton liked the idea of a floating holiday.
- The VA read the list of current holidays. Currently there are eleven holidays.
  - The Mayor noted that it is ten holidays and one personal day. He reiterated to the VA, the idea of a floating holiday.
- The VA asked for a motion to have legislation prepared to go to Council to add the holiday.

Keller made a motion to add the holiday starting this year and to take it to Council for them to decide whether or not to make it a floating holiday.

- Keller asked if this would start in 2021 or 2022.
- The Mayor was in favor of adding it for 2021.

Keller added to his motion that it be effective for 2021. Foreman seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

### 2. Pool

- The VA said that this item came up too late to get on the agenda.
- She noted that over the last few weeks, several area pools started restricting their hours due to the shortage of lifeguards and the number of people with day passes.
- Those entities have established a cap on the number of people who can enter the pool at one time, and they all have to have season passes.
- She talked to the pool staff, and we are rapidly approaching that number.
- The person who trained our lifeguards, told pool manager Lonnie that Monday through Friday there are four lifeguards who can handle 250 people, not all of which are in the

pool at the same time. On Saturday, there are five lifeguards, so that number increases to 275 people at the pool. She said safety wise, we can't go over those numbers.

- We also have to take into consideration that as we move through August, we will lose some lifeguards who will be going to college. We only have twelve lifeguards this year.
- She said there is the option that once we reach the maximum, no one else can come in until some people leave, even if you have a season pass. If we limit to season passes only, those people who can't afford, or don't purchase a season pass, will not be able to enjoy our pool. It is a hard question to answer, but we need to keep safety in mind.
- We have had some incidents at the pool which resulted in us having an officer do a walk through a couple of times a day.
- The Mayor asked the VA what the daily numbers are.
- The VA said that right now they are 150 to 170 if the sun is shining. They have been as high as 225 to 250. She thinks we will get more people since the pools around us are not accepting day pays.
- Keller asked how many memberships we have.
  - Keller said that if there are only two hundred, why not let the first 50 come in?
  - The VA said that she will have to get those number from the FO when he gets back.
- Foreman asked if the number is for Family passes or Individual passes since that affect the actual number of people at the pool. He said for example that if there are 150 that could be 150 times 3.
- The VA said that she will have to count the individual persons on the passes. While she is counting those up, what if she hits that 250 mark? Do we turn them away if they are a season pass holder or not?
- The Mayor said he thinks we have to if we are at capacity.
- Foreman asked if it is determined by the number of lifeguards or pool size.
- The VA said it is the number of lifeguards.
- Foreman asked if there was someone interested, could they be put in training or has that ship sailed and we can't train any more lifeguards.
- The VA said that the person that certifies lifeguards only does that in May so we can't train anyone else.
- The Mayor said that Miller Pool in Lancaster is curtailing days and hours due to their staffing issues. He asked if we had any lifeguards who could be on call to come in if our numbers increase during the week. We could offer them a stipend to be on call.
- The VA is open to ideas.
- The Mayor noted that the pool won't be open during the week for much longer since school opens August 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The Mayor said that if they reach the maximum they will have to turn people away.
- Keller said that we wait and see if we reach the maximum number.

The VA said that she has been approached by several people about having an adult swim after the regular closing hours until 9 o'clock but not necessarily every day. She wants to know if the Committee is okay with the idea. She said they could do either a couple of days a week or every day. She said Lonnie and Austin, the pool manager and assistant manager, are okay with it so long as they can find someone to work those hours.

- Keller asked if they need a lifeguard.
- The VA said that anytime there is someone in the pool you need a lifeguard.

- Foreman said we should get the most use out of the pool as possible. He asked if there would be a separate fee for the adult swim.
- The VA said that it would be a separate rate.
- The Mayor asked about charging those who already have a membership.
- Foreman said that it is beyond the scope of availability. He thinks we should charge for it.
- Keller agreed that they should charge since you have to pay the lifeguards.
- The VA asked if they should try it a couple of nights to see how it goes over.
- The consensus of the Committee was to try it and see how it goes.

The VA said that she overlooked two things that were discussed at the last meeting.

- The first was a written agreement with Liberty Township. She said that she has looked for a written agreement and there isn't one. It has just been a handshake agreement.
- The other item was the grass ordinance. The Mayor asked the VA to look to other Villages, which she did. They did not have anything more than litter. She thinks it is an educational thing. Once we get the new website up, that will be something we can put on there.
- Foreman said that Rob Alt, Liberty Township Trustee doesn't want to pass along a handshake deal for those coming after him. He wants it in writing as to what the Township is responsible for and what the Village is responsible for so that there won't be a problem like there was the day the tree fell down.
- The VA asked how the Committee wants to approach this matter. Do they want her to bring something back to Rules and have someone dictate to her what they believe the gentlemen's agreement as they see it was so we can see it in black and white and decide if we want to adopt it?
- The Mayor said to get with Tim and the guys and write down what their understanding is of what they do and take that to the Trustees.
- Foreman said he could take that and discuss it with the Trustees and see if they agree.
- The VA said that she would like to be a part of that.
- Foreman said Rob Alt is the one who wants to see it in writing, the other two are indifferent. Rob Alt would be the one to reach out to.
- The VA will get the information written down and bring it back for the Village for review and then it can be sent on to Council.
- Keller asked if the Village has the deed.
- The VA said we do not have the deed to the cemetery on Market St.
- The Mayor said that we could find the deed at the Recorder's office.

Hamilton asked if the Village has the deed for any of the cemeteries in town.

- The VA said that the Village is registered with the State of Ohio for Basil Memorial, Maple Grove, and the Granville Street cemetery.

The VA asked where they want to go with grass clipping in the street, which is the only item open.

- The Mayor asked if that is for Rules or Safety.
- The VA said that they talked about it in both. She will take it to Safety.

**Next Meeting**

**The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in July; July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. or immediately following the Finance Committee meeting.**

**Adjournment**

With no additional business to be discussed, Keller made a motion to adjourn. Foreman seconded the motion. The motion carried by a 3-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 7:07 p.m.

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Mike Hamilton, Chair