



Village of Milan

Regular Council Meeting

June 23, 2021

The June 23, 2021 Regular Council Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Pam Crosby.

Roll call: Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.

Also, present: Mayor Pam Crosby, Fiscal Officer Cathy Ramey, Administrator Brian Rospert, and Attorney Jim Barney.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by Shafer, to approve the Minutes of the May 26, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. Roll Call: Bickley – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motion by DeLand, seconded by Bickley, to amend the Minutes of the May 4th Special Council Meeting. Roll Call: DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – no, Rospert – no, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

John Lewis representative for the Milan Melon Festival discussed this year's Melon Festival and Agreement. It was noted that Erie County Health Department commissioner Peter Schade met with Mayor Pam Crosby, Police Chief Bob Meister, Administration Brian Rospert and president of the Melon Festival Bill Harris, with no restrictions for the festival but was suggested to put in hand washing stations and satiation stations.

Motion by McIlrath, seconded by Rospert, to allow the use of the Village Square for this year's Melon Festival and to approve of this year's Agreement with the opening of food vendors on Friday evening from 6:00 pm – 10:00pm.

Roll Call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, Bickley – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

Council invited Ron Cull to discuss the Erie Metro Parks decision to tear down the Jenkins Warehouse. (This is the last remaining structure of the Milan Canal Basin). Erie Metro Parks Director Amy Bowman-Moore spoke about the Jenkins Warehouse which Erie Metro Parks bought for \$60,000.00 from Robert Bickley around 2010. In January 2021, the warehouse was no longer being rented by Robert Bickley and now just sits idle. Erie Metro Parks Director Bowman-Moore noted the building is dilapidated and with the cost of repairs and not knowing what the end use would be, consideration of tearing the Warehouse down and building an

education center would be an option. Stating that the education center would have on display some hand grooved logs that would be placed behind Plexiglas, to pay homage to the history of what was there. Director Amy Bowman-Moore said the board decided and voted to have the Warehouse removed. Councilperson McIlrath asked why Erie Metro Parks bought in the first place. Director Bowman-Moore responded that she wasn't sure, but thought it may have been part of the greenway deal but she wasn't the director at that time. Resident Don Gfell asked about the bids that were submitted, what was decided with them and if there is a clause if the Metro Parks could deny the bids that they received. Director Bowman-Moore is holding off on them yet, but did note that she called the winning bidder. Resident Jack Didelot suggested that someone look into a possible grant in to restoring the Warehouse. Rick Scheel, President of the Heritage Society of Erie County discussed a barn that was once standing where EHOVE is today and was moved to the Erie County Fairgrounds for everyone to enjoy and learn the history of it. Rick Scheel also suggested to find a way to preserve this building. A Public Hearing will be at a later date.

Resident Mary Bruno asked Fiscal Officer Cathy Ramey why there have not been any bank reconciliations from February 2017 to June 2019, and again from June 2020 to June 2021. Fiscal Officer Ramey responded that she did research and did find prior fiscal officer documentation of 2018, 2019 and 2020 reconciliations attached to the minutes with the bank reconciliations at the time. 2016 and 2017 was not reconciled so the auditors did reconcile through 2017. Fiscal Officer Ramey noted that when she was hired she found the last reconciliation was done May 2020, due to time to recreate and record requests coming in, she ask for Council approval to have the firm reconcile up through April. Officer Ramey also addressed her question on the adjustments, stating it was presented in the audit once the audit was done. Financial papers showed a list of adjustments to be made to the funds, Officer Ramey has asked the auditors for the work papers so she can review and if she doesn't hear on what to do she will ask the state auditors. Mary Bruno also asked about why water rates went from 4.75 to 12% and there was nothing posted. Administrator Rospert stated the first ordinance was tabled for 8 to 9 months and with the loss of time, the rate study consultant suggested that it increase to the 12%. Administrator Rospert reached out to the rate study consultant Joseph Lawrie and asked if the minimum of 2 thousand gallons was factored in to the study. As of this meeting, Lawrie had not responded back. Administrator Rospert stated the village residents will be made whole if there was an error in the rate study calculations and once he hears back a special meeting will be scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS

Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers – Erie Blacktop completed Milan Manor Road Repaving Project and the pavement repairs on Main Street.

OLD BUSINESS – cont.

Safety – Smith Paving is scheduled to begin the Safe Routes to School sidewalks and crosswalks improvement project this week.

Finance – None

Regional Planning, Building Codes & Inspection – Case Trial involving 103 S. Main Street Fence Appeal was settled on May 27, 2021. The resident is to remove four sections of fence from the Lockwood Road right-of-way.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for the proposed Solar Array Ordinance on July 8, 2021, at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers.

Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing on June 1, 2021, the Board approved a side and rear yard setback variance for 51 Bond Street for a shed addition.

Utilities – Due to scheduling conflicts, the North Substation Phase I Electric Transformer Project was delayed several weeks but is scheduled to relocate the three regulators over the next several weeks.

Equipment from Charge Point has come in and is now in the process of scheduling the installation.

Civic Contacts and Historical Preservation – None

Parks and Tree – Roe Tree Service removed two trees on Edison Drive and will be back in to remove the stumps.

Records Commission – Records Commission Meeting will be scheduled sometime the week of July 12, 2021.

Citizens Property Maintenance – None

NEW BUSINESS

Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer – Cold patched potholes, mowed, sprayed weeds, laid mulch, and assisted the other departments. Administrator Rospert noted to Council that Erie County engineers sent a memo to the Village if they want to enter in an agreement for 2022 salt contract. In the past the Village has requested 400 tons of salt and Administrator Rospert would like to recommend to council to do the same thing. Erie County will need a response by July 16th.

Motion by Bickley, seconded by Shafer, to enter into an agreement with Erie County Engineer for 400 tons of salt. Roll Call: Bickley – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

NEW BUSINESS – cont.

Safety – A Deaf Child in Area sign was purchased and will be posted in Milan Manor Drive.

Councilperson Bickley has a resignation letter from Officer Dillon Lewis from the Milan Police Department effective June 12th.

Motion by Bickley, seconded by McIlrath, to accept the resignation of Dillon Lewis from the Milan Police Department effective June 12, 2021. Call: Bickley – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

Finance – Fiscal Officer Cathy discussed financial reports given to Council which include Bank report, Statement of Cash and Bank Reconciliation for May and the outstanding check report. Officer Ramey stated that the tax budget will be presented in July to the finance committee. Provided information on the Annual Village Property and Liability Insurance rates for renewal, which runs from July 1st to July 1st with the proposal. Rates increased \$3500.00 from last year to this year and reason to why which include, a few extra part time officers, increase expenditures, pending litigation and natural disasters worldwide. Ramey also recommended the added additional \$677.00 to cover cyber coverage and to increase crime forgery, computer fraud and funds transferred.

Motioned by Rospert, seconded by Shafer to approve the Council Bills for the period of May 26th – June 23rd. Roll Call: Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes.

Motioned by McIlrath, seconded by Taylor to approve the Utility Bills for the period of May 26th – June 23rd. Roll Call: McIlrath – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motioned by Bickley, seconded by Rospert to approve the Financial Reports as presented for this month. Roll Call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes. Councilman Bickley thanked Fiscal Officer Cathy Ramey for the great job she has done in simplifying the reports and the accuracy in them.

Motion by Bickley, seconded by Rospert to accept the new Property and Liability Insurance Annual Premium from the Ohio Plan. Roll Call: Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.

Regional Planning, Building Codes & Inspection – Fence permit issued for 72 Edison Drive and pool permit issued for 20 Landsdown Drive.

Utilities – Water/Waste Water department performed required EPA testing, general maintenance on equipment and auto-dialers, assisted other departments and collected samples for required EPA tests for chlorine disinfection byproducts. A submersible pump ordered for the Lift and Recirculation Station due to the failure of the other one.

NEW BUSINESS – cont.

Electric department performed weekly substation check list, assisted other departments, continue work on electrical upgrades in Sleepy Hollow subdivision, transfer of power to new pole at 48 Edison Drive, rebuilt cross arms for power extension to 68 Elm Street and replaced transformer at 134 Huron Street due to a short from power to cable coming into contact with each other, which two residents were affected. The residents are asking Council to consider reimbursing them for their expenses from the sub-contractor they hired to look into the electrical issue inside their homes.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by DeLand to reimburse Linda Schenk and Sue Mills for their expenses from Great Lake Electric. Roll Call: Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert –yes, Taylor – yes.

Civic Contacts – New “Welcome to Milan” signage for State Route 113 East and State Route 601 South. Don Gfell, a member of the Milan Rotary Club mentioned that this is the Rotary’s 75th anniversary and the Rotary has a pending donation to cover the work of these signs.

Parks and Trees – Roe’s Tree Service was called to remove a tree on Saturday June 12th as an emergency due to the tree splitting away from the main trunk.

Records Commission – None

Citizens Property Maintenance Commission – None

Communications – Thursday, the Federal Government passed a new Federal Holiday for Juneteenth, marking the end of slavery. This will be discussed during a Council Work Session under Holiday calendar.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motioned by McIlrath, seconded by Shafer to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Roll call: Bickley – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motioned by Taylor, seconded by McIlrath to return to Regular Session. Roll call: McIlrath – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motioned by Taylor, seconded by DeLand to continue live streaming Regular and Special Village Council Meeting utilizing the Village Facebook page. Bickley responded to amend the motion to revisit the first of next year.

Motioned by Bickley, seconded by McIlrath to amend the previous motion and to revisit live streaming Regular and Special Village Council Meeting on the Village Facebook page in the beginning of next year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – cont.

Motioned by Bickley, seconded by McIlrath to amend the previous motion and to add the condition to revisit continuing live streaming of Regular and Special Village Council Meeting on the Village Facebook page in the beginning of next year. Roll call: Shafer – yes, DeLand – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Taylor – yes.

LEGISLATION

Ordinance – Next Number will be 798-06-21

Resolution – Next Number will be 612-06-21

Questions for Next Meeting – Stefan Taylor talked about murals.

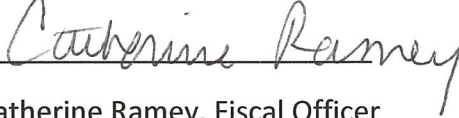
Adjournment

Motion by McIlrath, seconded by Rospert, to adjourn tonight’s meeting.

Roll call: DeLand – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.



Carla Rospert, Council President



Catherine Ramey, Fiscal Officer