

Regular Session of Village Council

February 14, 2023; 6:30 pm

Call to Order

The Regular Session of Council was called to order by Mayor York Bryant. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Roll Call was completed by Solicitor, John Kaspar. The following members were present.

Kiley Dane

Jim Frederick

Mike McKeehan

Mitchell Fisher

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh

Ben Steiner

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to approve January 10, 2023 Regular Session made by Fisher; second by Steiner. All yea.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Monthly Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements, Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation were provided for Council.

Jones Warner Consultants – Shawn Campbell

Mr. Campbell updated the Mayor and Council on the ditch and stormwater connection at Welch Road and Pattison Avenue. This project is currently being finished up. An update regarding the booster station in the Woodlands, the back-up power generator has been placed and is working. Mr. Campbell then discussed the property around the booster station. The developer provided the land to place the booster station and now that the station is complete, it is time for the Village to seek an easement or purchase the property. The developer has agreed to donate the property. Solicitor Kaspar discussed and advised council to allow him to look into the agreement of ownership of this property. Discussion followed. Council agreed to have Kaspar look into this matter.

Presentation from Little Miami Gig – Chase Struna & Dett Hunter

Mr. Chase Struna, President of Little Miami Gig, presented the company and operational update to the Mayor and Council. LM Gig started in May 2020. They have over 800 homes connected to their fiber optic network and another 200 homes waiting to be connected and under contract. Currently all in house construction crews except two contractors, B&M and Ryan Construction. LM Gig currently has three data centers. One is fully operational, second is almost complete, third is in process. First data center is in Morrow at the MAC, second on 380 & 73, third is in downtown Midland. Thirty-two local employees work with LM Gig. LM Gig averages 5 students a year from local trade schools. LM Gig is focusing on the areas of Clinton and Warren County. Within Warren County, they are focusing on Washington, Harlan and Salem Townships. LM Gig is not trying to go head to head with large competitors instead they aim to reach those who are currently underserved. Discussion followed regarding the new LM Gig building in the Roachester Area, which will be online around July 1, 2023.

Planning and Zoning

The Village Zoning Inspector, Vic Center, discussed a zoning change on a piece of property adjacent to the PineRidge Nursing Home. The new owner of this property will be building a 50 x 50 manufacturing building, which will necessitate a zoning change from R3 to I1. Planning Commission would instead prefer that the zoning be changed from R3 to B2, there are no objections to building the property just want to keep it as a B not an I. Planning Commission also wants to be sure that no trucks park overnight and also no outside storage. Discussion followed. Resolution adopting recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the zoning application for Rollers Now Inc. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by McKeehan. All yea. Motion to Adopt made by Frederick; second by Fisher. All yea.

Village Officials

The Mayor introduced the Village of Morrow's newest Police Officer, Ryan Woodward. Next, the Mayor discussed seeking approval for golf carts and UTV's. Discussion followed.

Solicitor Kaspar will look into this matter for next month. The Mayor also asked council to start thinking about a new dump truck for the maintenance department. This will probably need to be purchased this year.

The Administrator updated council on four matters. 1. Duke Energy Foundation awarded \$15,000 in grants for small businesses in eastern Warren County. Six businesses from the Village of Morrow received grants from \$1,000 to \$1,800. These businesses included Bryson's Auto, Fresh to Morrow, Morrow Arts Center, Miranda's, Miles Ahead Animal Sanctuary/Rescue and the Wonder Lab.

2. Four major water leaks were found and fixed by Phil Kaufman and Mike Bryant. 3. Resolution 2-23 – Resolution authorizing the FY23 Community Development Block Grant application for the beautification of the Morrow Plaza. 4. Solar powered Speed Limit signs. Looking into four signs, two for the Woodlands and two for the school zone.

Councilwoman Dane informed council and Officer Woodward of an egging incident of a car behind Don Bigotes. Unsure of who did it but would like police to keep an eye on this area.

Councilman Fisher complimented the repair work occurring on Welch Road. Mr. Fisher also asked if the Police Department could monitor Welch Road a little more due to constant speeding by cars and buses.

Councilman McKeehan discussed a new sign to rename the US22 & SR3 bridge outside of the Administrative building. Discussion followed and more information will come in the next meeting.

Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh reminded the Fiscal Officer to look into Star Ohio and the benefits it could bring us in interest.

Solicitor Kaspar brought to the Mayor and Council two Resolutions and one Ordinance. Resolution 1-23 – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Warren County Engineer's Office for the purchase of 100 tons of road salt for the 2023-2024 winter season and declaring an emergency. Motion to suspend the rules made by Steiner; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea. Motion to approve made by Steiner; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea.

Resolution 2-23 – Authorizing the FY23 Community Development block grant application for the beautification of the Morrow Plaza. Motion to suspend the rules made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Frederick. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Fisher. All Yea.

Ordinance 1-23 – Approving and Adopting the Ohio Basic Code for 2023. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by Fisher. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea.

The Fiscal Officer asked council who would like to represent the Village of Morrow at the Warren County Regional Planning Commission. Jim Frederick will be the representative with Mitchell Fisher, the backup. Two leak adjustments were also given to council. Council approved both leak adjustments and stated that the Village only adjusts one bill.

The floor was open to the public. A citizen asked what the Village can do about the recent power outages. Carol had a conference call with Duke Energy officials involved with the area and they will be coming to a future Council meeting for a presentation.

George Shraffenburger asked what the Village is doing about making the Woodlands of Morrow a one side street parking only. The Mayor stated that this can be done once the streets are dedicated to the Village.

Adjournment

Motion by Isaacs-Niemesh to adjourn; second by Frederick. All yea.

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council
& Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor