

Regular Session of Village Council

July 11, 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 June 13, 2023 Regular Session made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by Frederick. Steiner abstained. All others yea, adopted by majority.

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.

School Resource Officer – Officer Robert Hawk

Officer Hawk works as the School Resource Officer (SRO) at Morrow Elementary with grades Preschool – 1st and also 4th & 5th. Officer Hawk monitors both school buildings on Welch Road. He is very involved with the students and encourages a good relationship between law enforcement and the public. Council complimented Officer Hawk on a job well done.

Brant Fulks – Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Morrow Bridge Grant

Mr. Fulks updated council regarding the Todd's Fork Railroad Bridge. In 2021, the Ohio state legislature approved \$400,000 to sandblast and paint the bridge as part of the Capitol Improvement Budget. The Department of Transportation had concerns about some structural damage to the bridge. ODNR is supplementing the budget with an additional \$600,000 in order to make the repairs necessary to the bridge then sandblast and paint. ODNR has contracted with an engineer and has a scope of work on areas of concern. Potential schedule for the bridge is – November will have a design, December – out for bid, May – project completion. Mr. Fulks discussed two options with council in regards to closing the trail at the bridge and detouring either thru the Municipal building parking lot or thru Bishop Park located next to the Municipal building. Both options would include ODNR adding a sidewalk to connect the bike trail to the side walk on Pike Street. Mr. Fulks will send information regarding both options to the Village of Morrow.

Report from Planning Commission - Dollar General

Regarding a decision about the variances requested by Dollar General to build a store at 103 Flora Drive, Solicitor Kaspar stated that since the Planning Commission rendered a tie vote with 2 up and 2 down with 1 voter absent he would make a recommendation. The recommendation is to redirect back to Planning Commission and hold a hearing before the full board. This will be a clean record and follow due process necessary for the planning commission to present to council. Motion to resend to Planning Commission made by Isaacs-Niemesh; second by McKeehan. All yea.

Village Officials

The Administrator updated council on the following:

1. Radar speed signs for Welch Road are in the office and going up soon.
2. Plaza – lights in the parking lot and common places have been repaired.
3. New Tenant – Maximum Freedom Inc. – previously Ruff House.
4. Starting work on Depot – demolition starting soon.

Councilman Fisher asked when Center Street will be paved, needs to be finished before school starts. Fisher also asked when the Welch Road project would be complete. Shawn Campbell indicated the project would be for next year.

Councilwoman Dane informed Council that the executive director of St. Zachery's Haven has offered tours of their facility anytime council would like to see it. Dane also introduced a cheer coach from LM Youth Football whose daughter has Spina Bifida and would like to host a fundraiser at Thornton Park. The fundraiser is called the Spina Bifida Walk N Roll. LM Youth is asking to allow the coach to have the fundraiser at the park on September 24th. The board of LM Youth approved, the coach was just asking for council to approve as well. All agreed to allow.

Solicitor Kaspar recommended for council's approval two Resolutions:
Resolution #5-23 -appointing initial Region 14 Representative Greta Hochstetler and alternate Karen Scherra to the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Inc. Board. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Frederick; second by Fisher. All yea.

Resolution #6-23 – approving Mayor's execution of contract with Rumpke Waste Management motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by Steiner. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Steiner; second by Frederick. All yea.

Open to the Floor

Discussion was opened to public comment and concerns were raised regarding the planning commission meeting. Solicitor Kaspar explained that the public and anyone involved in the planning commission will have a chance to speak at the next planning commission meeting. Once the vote is taken at the planning commission meeting, there will be a recommendation made to council. Once again, the public can make their voice heard to council. Then council will vote. Discussion followed.

Adjournment

Motion by Isaacs-Niamesh to adjourn; second by Fisher. All yea.

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council
& Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor