

PRESIDING OFFICER, THOMAS J. GARDNER, MAYOR

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Joe Bourne, Brandie Bourne, John Little, Ed Steffek, Nate Penrod, Steve Adams

ABSENT: N/A

OTHER ATTENDEES: Rick Swiger, Donna Meek & DJ Meek

VISITORS: Nancy Bourne, John Bourne

MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE

The meeting was opened with The Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gardner.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Motion was made by Nate Penrod and seconded by Brandie Bourne to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes from regular meeting held March 18, 2025. All council members present were in favor.

VISITORS

* Fire Chief John Bourne expressed gratitude for the village replacing water lines in the fire department. The new water lines will help with the washing process of the fire gear. Bourne also thanked the administration for approving the project of installing a new fire well in the Belden Park area.

PAY BILLS

***Motion made by Brandie Bourne** and seconded by Nate Penrod to pay bills from respective funds. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Steve Adams yay, Ed Steffek yay, Nate Penrod yay.

POLICE

*No Reporting-Absent

STREET

*Heard from Street Supervisor Rick Swiger that the new insulated doors were installed on the street dept. garage. Wayne Door was able to install the doors earlier than expected.

SOLICITOR MARK PERLAKY

* No Reporting - Absent

INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATOR

*Tax administrator Donna Meek distributed the 1st quarter Income Tax Report – with a year to date total of \$46,490.49. Revenue is up from year 2024 – which was \$42,994.76.

Motion made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Brandie Bourne to approve the 1st quarter Municipal Income Tax Report as stated. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

ZONING/ADMIN ASST.

* Heard that the Thrasher Group representatives would like to meet with Mayor Gardner and DJ Meek in order to do a walk through for tree removal for the upcoming sidewalk project. The sidewalk project is expected to be completed in year 2026.

*A permit was issued for resident Tim Menefee for a garage and fence at 206 E Main Street.

*A permit was amended for a fence and building at 202 N St. Clairsville Street.

*Reminder that a Zoning Variance Meeting will be held at 6pm on April 2nd at Village Hall.

*Heard that there will be a Planning Commission Meeting following the Variance Meeting at Village Hall on April 2, 2025 at 7pm. This meeting was called to discuss amending garage distance location/footage.

MAYOR

*Mayor Gardner indicated that he had two inquiries within the week for housing of chickens in the village. Gardner indicated that he received a call from a realtor inquiring about chickens for a property that is on the market for sale in Port Washington. Gardner also distributed an email from village resident Whitney McClintock requesting the council to lift the ordinance against the housing of chickens. Gardner distributed Ordinance #2010-6 which prohibits of certain animals in the village (includes chickens). The ordinance allows exceptions for small 4-H project animals on a case-by-case basis. This ordinance states that no person shall keep pig, horse, cow, goat, sheep, fowl, poultry, three or more dogs, or any other animal or animals whether domestic or exotic. For approximately 30 minutes council discussed whether to amend Village Ordinance #2010-6. Mayor Gardner indicated that if the ordinance was to be amended – restrictions would be needed such as limiting the number of chickens, no roosters, the location of the coop, fencing and housing, no free roaming. Zoning Inspector DJ Meek indicated that the normal setback and fencing regulations could be used. Comments from council included: If chickens were permitted – then what would be next – would residents request other animals such as ducks, etc? Chickens can fly and fencing will not always keep them in. Housing of chickens will bring odor to the area. After much discussion it was the consensus of village council that they did not want to amend the ordinance to allow the housing of the chickens. However, Mayor Gardner pointed out that Ordinance #2010-6 needed to be amended to reflect allowing one horse to be grandfathered in (located at 217 Glasgow Road) The grandfather clause was originally approved when Ordinance 2010-6 was passed in year 2010 but was inadvertently omitted. Mayor Gardner indicated that Ordinance # 2010-6 will be amended with three readings before passage to reflect the grandfather clause for one horse. The three readings will also give the community residents the opportunity to voice their opinions on the keeping of chickens or other animals within the village.

*Reminder - Spring Clean Up for April 4,5 & 6th. Two roll off dumpsters will be brought in for the clean-up weekend. Refuse containers will be located at 105 W Main Street Rear - in the lot behind what was once known as the Old Ugly Mug. No tires or hazardous waste will be accepted.

JOE BOURNE

*Bourne reported twelve calls for the month of March handled by the Delaware Volunteer Fire Dept. 5 calls were to assist Newcomerstown Fire Dept, 3 calls to assist Arrowhead Fire Dept, one call for downed lines, one call for smoke in a building and 2 calls for auto accidents.

CONT'D JOE BOURNE

*Bourne received a quote for \$3200 from Morrison Masonry for labor and material to form and pour concrete for sidewalk additions at the pavilion and restroom area in Belden Park. This addition would make it more handicap accessible.

***Motion was made by Joe Bourne ad seconded by Nate Penrod** to proceed with the quote from Morrison Masonry LLC for the concrete project. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

*Heard that Bourne researched dates for community yard sales in neighboring communities. Council had previously discussed on holding a community yard sale weekend in the village.

Motion was made by Ed Steffek and seconded by Joe Bourne to approve and set a community yard sale event for the village to be held on May 29, 30 and 31st. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

NATE PENROD

*No Reporting

BRANDIE BOURNE

*Reminder – Last Fire Dept Breakfast for the season will be held on April 12, 2025 from 8-11am. The Month of May event will be the Annual Chicken Dinner Memorial Day Event.

*Bourne indicated that Henry's Heating, Cooling & Plumbing repaired several additional plumbing issues in the fire dept free of charge. Heard from Donna Meek that the sink in the lady's restroom is draining slowly.

***Motion made by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Ed Steffek** to approve Cleaning Lady Donna Meek to try to resolve the draining issue herself. If the issue cannot be resolved, the permission has been given to call Henry's Heating Cooling & Plumbing to repair the issue of drainage. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

STEVE ADAMS

*Heard that Adams has begun prepping for the Annual Memorial Day Event

JOHN LITTLE

*No Reporting

ED STEFFEK

*No Reporting

FISCAL OFFICER

*Heard that the State will be performing a Basic Audit (one day audit) for the village. This audit will cover year 2023 and 2024. Audit will take place at the village office on Wednesday – April 2nd. Cost is not to exceed \$700.

Next meeting will be April 15, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Meeting Adjourned

Thomas J. Gardner, Mayor

Date

Darissa R. Lute, Fiscal Officer

Date

