

**VILLAGE OF LYNCHBURG, OHIO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 10, 2022**

Mayor Jamie Burton called the Council meeting to order at 6:38pm.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by all.

Roll Call was taken by Fiscal Officer Kelli Rosselott. In attendance were Marty Bailey, Judy Davis, Christine Hamlin, Dave Minton, Tagg Pendleton, and Kenny Eaglin.

A motion was made by Marty Bailey and seconded by Kenny Eaglin, to approve the January 6th, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes. Motion passed 6-0.

The Village Administrators Report for 1/5/22-2/10/22 was presented by Village Administrator, Ashley Campbell. Please see enclosed for a copy of the full report.

Ashley added to the Covered Bridge Project updates; the siding will be oak, stained/sealed, board & batten. The windows will be kept and the Bridge will not be open for drive-through traffic. On behalf of the Historical Society, Chris Hamlin asked if 10 boards could be salvaged for a project.

The Fiscal Report for January 2022 was presented by Fiscal Officer, Kelli Rosselott. Please see enclosed for a copy of the report.

The receipts for January were \$74,588.59. The expenses for January were \$115,159.20. Expenses over receipts for January 2021 were \$40,570.61.

Note: \$40,414.64 was paid to OWDA for loan repayments. Kelli provided coverage for the Utility Office on January 13th & January 14th. The 2021 UAN Year-End process and the 2021 Annual Financial Report has been completed; a public notice will be published in the newspaper stating such, as required by O.R.C.

The Police Report for January 2022 was presented by Police Chief Richard Warner. Please see enclosed for a copy of the full report.

The Finance Committee Report for January 2022 was presented by Judy Davis. The meeting was held on February 10th, 2022 at 6:00pm before the Council Meeting. In attendance were Committee Members Chris Hamlin, Tagg Pendleton, Dave Minton, and Judy Davis. Also present were Administrator Ashley Campbell, Police Chief Richard Warner, and Fiscal Officer Kelli Rosselott.

All financial reports for January 2022 were reviewed. Ashley reviewed the current year health insurance and new policy recommendations. There were a few general reporting questions. The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm and the next meeting will be on March 10th, 2022 at 6:00pm.

The Planning, Restoration, Parks, Recreation and Economic Development Meeting was held January 6th, 2022 and was presented by Marty Bailey. In attendance were Mayor Burton, Fiscal Officer Kelli Rosselott, Police Chief Richard Warner, Christine Hamlin, Judy Davis, Dave Minton, Tagg Pendleton, Kenny Eaglin, & Marty Bailey.

The meeting included a quick recap of December events, Village Christmas, Lighted Parade, Glenavy entrance project, the meeting adjourned at 7:30pm and the next meeting will be March 3rd, immediately following the Public Works Meeting.

Old Business: N/A

New Business:

Karen Faust, accompanied by Becky Williams, addressed the Council.

The topic of discussion was the Solar Projects, specifically in the Lynchburg area; Senate Bill 52 will allow the process of defining certain areas as 'Restricted Zones.' If the Village, all five Townships, and the Lynchburg-Clay Schools were to unite together as one entity it would provide for a stronger case to the County Commissioners. There will be an invitation to attend a meeting at end of February or beginning of March to make some effort and discuss future Solar Farms.

A motion was made by Dave Minton and seconded by Marty Bailey, to approve *Resolution 2022-01 A Resolution to Authorize Transfer of Funds. Allowing the Fiscal Officer to transfer \$4,843.46 from the Water fund to the Water Debt Service fund to pay the OPWC loan.* Motion passed 6-0.

A motion was made by Chris Hamlin and seconded by Kenny Eaglin, *to allow the Fiscal Officer to pay Johnny Pigg (Operator-in-Training) an additional nontaxable \$25 per month for a cell phone allowance retro back to January 2022.* Motion passed 6-0.

A motion was made by Dave Minton and seconded by Chris Hamlin *to allow the Village Administrator to go into contract with the UHC plan CN-EX/RX K35Y with the Village's yearly portion as \$57,191.04.* Motion passed 6-0.

A motion was made by Marty Bailey and seconded by Kenny Eaglin, *to approve the Village Administrator to advertise and hire for a full-time Maintenance Position at \$14-\$15 per hour.* Motion passed 6-0.

No motion was made for the *Waiver of Water Availability on Past Due Balances and Tax Assessments for properties located at 324 S. Main Street and 316 S. Main Street.*

[Total: \$3,420, requested by property owner: Ellen Pennington]

There was an 18-minute discussion on the matter:

Mrs. Pennington said she would pay going forward if the balance was forgiven & waived. This total has accumulated since Ordinance No.2016-18 passed on 2/2/2017 and collection began March of 2017. Whereas a Village property owner shall connect to the water distribution system and the waste water collection system or shall pay a water and sewer availability fee, of \$25 a month, in order to defray the cost to the Village of maintaining and improving access to the water and sewer service of the Village to such property.

Mrs. Pennington was asked her reasoning for the request and she stated that it was a good deal for the Village as she was pursuing a lawsuit. She does not believe this cost to be legal. She stated if she is successful with the case no one would pay, everything would be retroactive, and then refunded. If Council were to forgive and waive the balance, she stated she would no longer pursue the lawsuit.

Mrs. Pennington was asked if she had planned to rent or sell the properties. She responded stating that is not important at this time. Mrs. Pennington added that they had the water turned off with intentions to work on the properties and fix them up. She wants to restore the properties as they are historic homes.

The Council is trying to improve the Village and would like to see empty houses utilized or occupied. Mrs. Pennington stated that it takes older properties longer to get up to code and suitable for living conditions. She was asked how long had she owned the properties and she stated she did not have that information. A Council Member recalled that there hasn't been occupancy since about 2007. The Mayor gave the name Larry Stanforth, as an option, who is always looking and interested in buying and fixing up houses in Lynchburg. The Council communicated that dormant empty properties could be sold or rented and a source of revenue for the Village.

Motion failed, all opposed.

Petitions from the Council & Public: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM