

## Council Minutes

July 1, 2019

Council Members in attendance: Council President Dave Heitmeyer, Al Pingle, Rick Recker, Sue Schroeder, Sue Christman and Tony Wobler. Mayor Kevin Benton, Administrator Justin Barnhart, Fiscal Officer/Tax Administrator Renee Spangler, Solicitor Barry Schroeder, Police Chief Dennis Cupp, and Steven Coburn-Griffis from the Putnam County Sentinel.

Mayor Kevin Benton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the June 17, 2019 meeting and accept them as written was made by Sue Christman and this motion was seconded by Sue Schroeder. Roll call on this motion, Tony Wobler yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Al Pingle yea, Rick Recker yea.

Personnel & Finance Committee met prior to the council meeting Chairman Rick Recker said the committee doesn't have anything to bring to council but he did say that several of the topics that were spoken about will be addressed within the meeting tonight.

Mr. Barnhart gave council an update on the AFG grant for the fire truck that we will be getting, he said Vicki from Chicago met with Mr. Barnhart and Neil Goodwin, he said she was doing random audits to make sure everything was in order before any official audit would raise problems. He said there are some policies that will be brought up in the next couple of weeks to get those in place such as a procurement policy to be inline with the federal government. Mr. Barnhart said the procurement policy with the state isn't in line with the federal government, but we are okay with the way we do things, but Vicki just suggests that we have a procurement policy specific for federal purchases.

RESOLUTION 3112: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP TO SERVE AS THE ENGINEERING FIRM FOR PROJECTS IN REGARDS TO THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC, PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO. Was read for the third time. A motion was made by Sue Christman to accept Resolution 3112 and this was seconded by Dave Heitmeyer. Roll call on this motion, Rick Recker yea, Al Pingle yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Sue Christman yea, Tony Wobler yea.

RESOLUTION 3113: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR OF PUTNAM COUNTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Was read for the third time. A motion was made by Rick Recker to accept Resolution 3113 and this was seconded by Dave Heitmeyer. Roll call on this motion, Tony Wobler yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Al Pingle yea, Rick Recker yea.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A BACKSTOP CONTRACT WITH POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT IN REGARDS TO THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC, PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO. Was read for the first time. This Resolution authorizes the administrator to sign a contract with Poggemeyer Design Group providing \$12,500.00 to PDG to cover costs, should the Village be awarded the Neighborhood Revitalization Grant these funds would come from the grant. They are requesting that if it isn't successful that the Village pays them \$12,500.00. Mr. Barnhart said this was

brought up in the Personnel and Finance Committee meeting and he believes that their recommendation is that at this time this be tabled and if we are not successful then we revisit it at that time.

Consideration of Phosphorous Optimization Study: Mr. Barnhart gave council a review provided by Poggemeyer Design Group to complete the phosphorus optimization study required by the OEPA as part of our wastewater permit. The fee is not-to-exceed pricing of \$6800.00. This is a study that looks into where we have phosphorous issues and how to reduce the phosphorous, Mr. Barnhart said this is a new requirement by the EPA. Mr. Barnhart said at some point we will be able to duplicate it here in the future, but we want to pay for this one if we can. Tony Wobler made a motion directing the administrator to authorize the proposal and Sue Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll call on this motion, Rick Recker yea, Al Pingle yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Sue Christman yea, Tony Wobler yea.

Mr. Barnhart provided information he had received from Anthem for our Health Insurance Cost he said it shows a slight reduction in our costs for next year. He said our renewal isn't until January. He said probably within a month Adam Cupp from UIS should be contacting Mr. Barnhart about the renewal.

Mr. Barnhart said he met with Brad Brubaker from the Sherriff's office, he handles the 911 dispatching, street names and addresses all go through him. Mr. Brubaker has pointed out that as Leipsic has expanded, we haven't kept up with our road naming. Road 5 specifically in front of Dietering's and Precision Laser needs changed to PRO-TEC Parkway with a North and South, he said he will be bringing legislation to council for this. St Rt. 65 in front of Mars and Poet will require a renaming, this will be brought to the streets committee before the next council meeting.

Mr. Barnhart provided council with an update on the Waterline Project, he said the berming on road three is being done tomorrow by the County. Mr. Barnhart said we were talking about doing that inhouse, he said the cost in the contract was about three times what berming should cost. The contractor was kind enough to point that out that it was a big expense.

Tony Wobler said he was talking to some residents in town that are concerned with some of the waterline pressures in town and they may need to be upgraded. Mr. Barnhart said the areas you are talking about have started to be upgraded this year but there is an area on Liberty St. that is on the list to be fixed.

Al Pingle said he went for a drive down Road 3 all the way to Gilboa and that has all been paved and it is a nice job. Mayor Benton agreed.

Fiscal Officer Renee Spangler suggested that council make a motion to post the Ordinances and Resolutions passed in five public places instead of in the Putnam County Sentinel. Since our Leispic newspaper is no longer in town this is something we can do, and it would be a cost savings. She said she brought this up to the Personnel and finance Committee and in that committee the places to post the Ordinances and Resolutions could be The Post Office, Village Offices, Village Website, Community Center and the Library. Dave Heitmeyer asked does it need to be posted in the Sentinel, Mrs. Spangler said not the Ordinances and Resolutions but anything else will still need to be advertised in the Sentinel. Solicitor Barry Schroeder asked that this gets tabled until the next meeting, he said Mrs. Spangler had brought this up to him last meeting and that there are several Villages in the County doing this, but he wants to be absolutely positive that this is correct. He said, she has brought it up to me before and several times before tonight. Mayor Benton asked Mr. Barnhart to put this on the agenda for next meeting.

Mr. Barnhart said that the commissioning at the Gilboa Pump Station will be on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm, Mr. Barnhart said he will be sending invites out to people for this event.

At 7:46 P.M. Tony Wobler made a motion to go into executive session to discuss purchase or sale of land, a public utility expansion for the purpose of economic development. Sue Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll call on this motion Tony Wobler yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Al Pingle yea, Rick Recker yea.

At 8:00P.M. Tony Wobler made a motion to come out of executive session and Rick Recker seconded the motion. Roll call on the motion Rick Recker yea, Al Pingle yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Sue Christman yea, Tony Wobler yea.

Dave Heitmeyer told council that the groundbreaking for the Leipsic Community Track in Bennett Park will be on Monday July 8, 2019 @ 6:30P.M.

RESOLUTION 3116: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR AND FISCAL OFFICER OF THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC TO SELL LAND TO THE PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION IN REGARDS TO THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC, PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Was read for the first time. A motion to suspend the rules and read Resolution 3116 for the second- and third time tonight was made by Rick Recker and seconded by Sue Schroeder. Roll call on this motion, Tony Wobler yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Al Pingle yea, Rick Recker yea. Resolution 3116 was read for the second and third time. A motion was made by Dave Heitmeyer to accept Resolution 3116 and this was seconded by Sue Schroeder. Roll call on this motion, Rick Recker yea, Al Pingle yea, Dave Heitmeyer abstained, Sue Schroeder yea, Sue Christman yea, Tony Wobler yea.

Mr. Barnhart told council that Melody Acres which is owned by Bob Alt Jr. was turned off today for lack of pay. Mr. Barnhart said the people that live out there realize that it's not the Village of Leipsic that is causing the issue. Some residents have urged the Village to work with Mr. Alt for the installation of individual meters at each trailer. The problem is, is that Mr. Alt can't afford it. Mr. Barnhart said that Leo Ellerbrock has always said that we don't want to take over his line, but Mr. Barnhart is interested to look further into it. He said there are a lot of good people out there and there are a lot of people out there that don't have the wherewithal to fend for themselves in times where they do not have provisions such as water. Mr. Barnhart said that he had turned the Melody Acres Trailer park back on tonight and then he will have Russ Teders turn them back off tomorrow and he let the people in the trailer park know that they need to stockpile their water because he is having it turned back off. Rick Recker asked if Bob has said anything, Mr. Barnhart said that Bob paid \$1000.00 but it will take \$4000.00 to get the trailer park turned back on. Mr. Barnhart said two months ago he let Mr. Alt's trailer park be turned back on once he paid the past due bill. Mr. Barnhart said we have been very generous to him. Dave Heitmeyer asked what the cost would be to individually meter each trailer. Mr. Barnhart said he did some calculations today and by the time you put all the meters in he thinks it would be \$45,000.00, this includes \$750.00 per tap plus \$200.00 for each trailer's water lines to be ran the right way to the tap, he said he thinks \$6000.00 to run the pipe and the majority of the cost will be the meters. Tony Wobler asked if Mr. Alt is charging any of these people for their water. Mr. Barnhart said, he has increased the rent slowly but at first, he didn't pass it onto them entirely. The people own their trailers, so their rent is for the lot and water and garbage, the trailer owner pays their own electric, gas and telephone and that's because he has easements through there. Mr. Alt told Mr. Barnhart that the village could get an easement to do the same thing. Renee Spangler said how can we turn the trailer court back on and not everyone else, if you do it for one you do it for all. Mr. Barnhart said well the difference is some of the people in the trailer park are paying Mr. Alt, but they are still being turned off because Mr. Alt didn't pay the water bill. Solicitor Barry Schroeder asked is there is anyway we could work with Mr. Alt to extend individual meters a few at a time. Dave Heitmeyer feels we should go after Bob Alt legally, Mr. Barnhart said to Solicitor Barry Schroeder that we need to look into the slumlord law, Mr. Schroeder said he would do some checking. Tony Wobler said this is establishing precedence, because then other people are going to say the same thing, Dave Heitmeyer agreed, and he said that's what Renee said. Barry Schroeder said the difference is he should only be a pass-through entity to pay that bill. Mrs. Spangler told Mr. Schroeder

we have other's that are in this same situation. Mayor Benton told council that Mr. Barnhart had ran this all through him before he went and did it and he agreed to it up and until this point but he is just like the rest of us enough is enough. Mr. Barnhart said so I'll have them shut off tomorrow and leave them off. Mayor Benton said I don't know about that guys we are talking 100 degrees heat indexes do we really want to do that right at this time. Dave Heitmeyer said he sees it both ways he see's the humanitarian way and what Renee is saying. Mayor Benton said but we have so many people effected by his malfeasance not their own. Al Pingle said, he has seen when the school bus stops their and how many little kids get off the bus there, but we need to find a way to stop if cause it's not fair to everyone else. Mr. Barnhart said what do you think about putting notes on their doors that will say they have until noon today to fill up on water and will be turned off until Mr. Alt pays. Mr. Barnhart said that is his thought because these people don't know that he didn't pay the bill. Dave Heitmeyer said the bill is due the 15<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Barnhart said yes but the 1<sup>st</sup> is when we do turnoffs. Mr. Heitmeyer asked if we can force him to sell, Mr. Barnhart said we could take him through the blighted property process. Mr. Barnhart asked when we turn them off tomorrow are, they off for good. Mr. Pingle said give them notice but yes, they should be turned off. Mayor Benton said let's figure out a way to get meters on each of the trailers. Sue Christman said then that way only the ones that don't pay are the ones getting turned off. Rick Recker said give them proper notice so shut them off at 7:00P.M. tomorrow night, Mr. Barnhart asked do we leave them on all day tomorrow so they can prep, Rick Recker said yes. Al Pingle said they will have fair warning then. Tony Wobler asked how Mr. Barnhart will notify them. Mr. Barnhart said he would go door to door with pamphlets. Sue Schroeder said he needs to come up with a plan for that trailer park. Dave Heitmeyer said leave them on until Wednesday morning that's twenty-four hours, Mr. Barnhart said, and Mr. Alt must pay one hundred percent of what he owes including this month, Mr. Heitmeyer said yes. Tony Wobler asked so then do we need to come up with some sort of a policy, Mr. Barnhart said we do have a policy and he violated it today. Mr. Heitmeyer said again give them twenty-fours hours' notice along with Mr. Alt and let him know the notice time and that we will be going after him legally. Mr. Schroeder said he would check with Gary Lammers about sending him a letter as well.

With no further business to come before the council, a motion for adjournment was made by Tony Wobler and seconded by Rick Recker. Roll call on this motion, Tony Wobler yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Al Pingle yea, Rick Recker yea. Meeting adjourned at 8:26P.M. The next council meeting will be July 15, 2019 at 7:30 P.M

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_