

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1/18/23

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 00:00:06

Mayor Spremulli called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 00:00:24

Mayor Spremulli led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: 00:00:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Len Spremulli, Mayor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Whitmyer	<input type="checkbox"/> Terry Hemmelgarn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Hale	<input type="checkbox"/> Alex Goetsch	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Kvacek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Rubin	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Nemer, Law Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Filarski, Engineer	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gabe Barone, Police Chief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Klemm, Service Director	

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PRIOR WRITTEN MINUTES: 00:01:06

CLERK: A Motion by Hale to accept prior written minutes and audio recording of the December 21, 2022 Council meeting, second by Whitmyer.

Roll call: Hale: yes; Kvacek: yes; Whitmyer: yes; Goetsch: absent; Rubin: yes; Hemmelgarn: absent

NOMINATION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT 00:01:28

Lisa Whitmyer nominated Kathleen Hale. Second by Rubin. No other nominations were made.

Roll call: Hale: yes; Kvacek: yes; Whitmyer: yes; Goetsch: absent; Rubin: yes; Hemmelgarn: absent

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: 00:02:15

Mayor Spremulli thanked Ken Kvacek for serving as Chairman for two years on the Finance Committee and Kathleen Hale for her two years on the Streets and Safety Committee.

**Finance Committee: Chairman: Lisa Whitmyer
Terri Hemmelgarn**

**Streets & Safety Committee: Chairman: Alex Goetsch
Ryan Rubin**

Planning & Zoning Commission: Ken Kvacek

**Parks Committee: Chairman: Ken Kvacek
Kathleen Hale**

**Utilities Committee – Chairman: Kathleen Hale
Ryan Rubin**

MAYOR'S REPORT: 03:36

Mayor Spremulli reported that he and Kathleen Hale discussed that some residents feel that we are not communicating enough with them about what is going on in the community. The Mayor is appointing an ad hoc committee consisting of Lisa Whitmyer, Kathleen Hale and Ken Kvacek to determine the best way to communicate with the residents. He would like recommendations on how we can better communicate with the residents, what issues we need to improve communication on and the method of communications that would be best utilized to get the message across.

The recent rash of thieves taking checks out of mailboxes was brought up in relation to the perceived communication problem noted above. The Mayor explained that back in November the Chief put information on the Bentleyville Police Facebook page and noted that we need to make residents aware of the page and that they can go there for information.

A clarification was made on Mayor Spremulli's meeting with the Metroparks. The Mayor explained that he met with the Metroparks one time. That purpose of the meeting was to request that Mayor Spremulli send a letter of support for funding the Metroparks was trying to get and to discuss the future of the Bentleyville Service Department as it pertains to our lease and location. The Mayor reported back to Council on that meeting. He noted that some of council has heard that there were additional meetings with the Metroparks, however the Mayor has not had any further communication with them. The current lease expired in June of 2023 but has been extended three years to 2026. The Mayor is going to ask Jeff Filarski to try to reach the Metroparks and get an update on what, if anything, is being done in regards to the planned renovation incorporating Bentleyville's Service Department.

Ryan Klemm reported to the Mayor that there was much more rotting than anticipated upon removal of the lights on the Miles Road bridge. Mayor Spremulli has asked him to prepare a report for council so they have a full picture of what that situation is. The service department will inspect the lights on the Solon Road bridge to determine if the same deterioration exists.

Mayor Spremulli reported that there have been some issues with Outlook Web, however everyone should be up to speed on accessing it. If anyone is not they should see Chief Barone.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: 00:12:25

The Mayor directed Council to the cash account balances (see Cash Balance and Outstanding Obligations December 2022).

Per Mr. Kvacek we are looking good as far as income expectations are. In addition, we received a report from RITA showing only approximately \$5,000 in outstanding payments.

Mayor Spremulli asked council to confirm their attendance at the March meeting.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT: 00:14:00

- No report

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: 00:14:02

- Mr. Filarski's report is on file.

ENGINEER REPORT 00:07:48

- Mr. Filarski's report is on file.

Mayor Spremulli moved to the motion to approve Jennifer Morris. Jennifer graduated in December with a degree in criminal justice from Youngstown State University. She completed her police academy requirements at the same time. Mayor Spremulli swore her in amongst a council chamber full of family and friends. She has been on the road for about a week working with Sergeant Cutwright. Officer Morris stated that she is happy to be a part of the department.

MOTIONS Motion to approve part-time Officer Jennifer Morris

Motion to approve hiring of Officer Jennifer Morris by Hale, second by Rubin.

Roll call: Hale: yes; Kvacek: yes; Whitmyer: yes; Goetsch: yes; Rubin: yes; Hemmelgarn: absent

CHIEF'S REPORT 00:16:

Mayor Spremulli asked the Chief to determine the cost of adding another full-time police officer and weighing that against an equal reduction in part-time officer hours. Per the Mayor we have young part-time police officers coming in who really want to be full-time somewhere so we often lose them. Chief Barone explained that everyone is struggling to find good, qualified full or part-time officers. In addition, he noted that police testing has decreased citing that Solon used to get 1500 people to test and now they are lucky to get 100-200 people. He noted that years ago there were many more part-time officers available that had full-time jobs and enjoyed doing this on the side, however not in recent years. There are many staffing issues everywhere currently which is why the Mayor asked the chief to prepare an analysis of the effects of hiring another full-time officer. Chief Barone explained that Officer Morris, has a strong personality as well as strong communication skills and he feels she will fit very well in our community. She has learned a lot in the short time she has been here and has impressed the Sergeant.

SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT: 00:22:40

- Mr. Klemm reported that equipment is in working condition, except the tractor that is out for service. We have a rental until the repairs are complete.
- Mr. Klemm reported that they have mainly been out plowing. Mayor Spremulli and Mr. Klemm joked about Mayor Spremulli's inquiry on knocking down mailboxes. Mr. Klemm's mailbox report revealed that he has not knocked any down recently, that Alex Goetsch's is leaning by no fault of the service department and that Ken Kvacek's falls down every year.

STREETS AND SAFETY REPORT: 00:24:32

- Committee report is on file.

- Kathleen Hale reported that discussion included making council aware of the service department needs so that when discussions with the Metroparks begins, they can convey our needs. Mr. Klemm reported that what they currently have is exactly what they need to operate.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: 00:26:11

- The Commission did not meet.

PARKS: 00:26:12

- The Committee report is on file.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE: 00:26:18

- The Committee did not meet this month.
- Mr. Rubin explained that he is in communication with Council Person Meany of Solon who is on the Utilities Committee regarding the Quartermane Circle dead zone and what they are doing. He learned that Solon has retained some consulting companies that are assessing the area. Mr. Rubin explained to Council Person Meany that Bentleyville also has issues and offered to help if there was anything he could help with and she said she would keep him updated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 00:28:23

- None

OLD BUSINESS: 00:28:08

- None

NEW BUSINESS: 00:28:32

2023-01 **An Ordinance for the payment of bills in the month of December January 2023 in the amount of \$75,839.44 and declaring an emergency.**

Motion to put Ordinance 2023-01 on first reading by Rubin; second Whitmyer

Roll call: Hale: yes; Kvacek: yes; Whitmyer: yes; Goetsch: yes; Rubin: yes; Hemmelgarn: absent

2023-02 **A Resolution amending the Bentleyville Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 and declaring an emergency.**

Motion to put Ordinance 2023-02 on first reading by Rubin; second Whitmyer

Roll call: Hale: yes; Kvacek: yes; Whitmyer: yes; Goetsch: yes; Rubin: yes; Hemmelgarn: absent

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: 00:29:39

- None

ADJOURNMENT: 00:31:06

- Next scheduled meeting is February 15, 2023,
- Motion to adjourn by Rubin, second by Hale. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Hale
President of Council

Nickol Sell
Fiscal Officer

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE
MONTHLY FINANCIAL POSITION
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