

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE, OHIO
STREETS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
February 12, 2024 MEETING
8:00 AM, BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES

Attendees:

Alex Goetsch
Ken Kvacek
Mayor Hale (partial)
Matt Maistros
Chief Barone
Doug Miller, Resident

The Meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were approved.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The service director reported that everything is going well with the service department. C&K has completed sewer jetting where needed, and everything is working properly. A section of guardrail along Miles Road was damaged by a tree falling from Moreland Hills. The service director inquired whether a claim should be made to Moreland Hills's insurer. The Mayor and/or Village Engineer should follow up.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

The Chief reported that everything is going well. A full-time officer will be leaving to pursue a fire career. He may work part time during the transition, but the Village will need to recruit a new full-time officer, which may be challenging because all municipalities are struggling to attract police officers.

OLD BUSINESS

Tractor: The Service Director provided information on used loader/backhoe options, which is the recommended equipment because it will easily handle salt loading duties as well as give the Village capabilities for many types of projects and repairs that are not currently possible. Used prices appear to range from \$25,000 to \$40,000, and the units sell quickly. The issue will be brought to Finance to recommend that the Mayor be authorized to

purchase a used unit for an amount authorized by Council. The plan would be to retain the tractor, with minimal repairs, which should be able to serve the Village for many more years if no longer used for salt.

Leaf machine: The service director does not believe that the leaf machine is likely to make it through another season. Appropriate replacements could cost up to \$150,000. The Village will need to determine whether to replace the machine or discontinue leaf pick up service.

Police vehicles: The Chief reported that the two new Durangos have been delivered. Unfortunately, an additional ~\$4,500 will be needed to complete outfitting because decals, and protective seat and floor liners were not included in the approved scope of work.

Lexipol software purchase is in process. The contract tabled at the last council meeting was confirmed to include all of the services expected. Approval will be brought to Council again at the February meeting.

Cannon Road pulloff. Recommended to remove gravel and plant grass to discourage drivers from cutting the corner and/or parking in that area. The Mayor will work with the service Director to determine the best time to do so.

Redaction software has been installed.

Vacation day allocation. The Mayor will work to define a new policy wherein first year employees will have a prorated number of vacation days through the end of the first calendar year of employment. This should avoid “use or lose” issues that often arise with employees hired in the later part of the year and should benefit both the Village and employees.

Seasonal plow help. The Service Director will develop a “bench list” of plow drivers who could be used on and on-call basis during snow events. The cost to pay those drivers should be less than overtime costs to for our service department workers and help with scheduling during the winter months.

NEW BUSINESS:

Doug Miller raised concerns about dead trees and branches in the right of way. The Service Director will make a list to be addressed when appropriate to hire a tree removal service and remove any within the Village’s capabilities.

Mr. Miller also expressed concerns with the increased traffic on Holbrook and Chagrin River resulting from the detour in place during the Maple Street repair work in Chagrin Falls. The Village had explored temporarily reducing the speed limit, but it appears that ODOT precludes that. Chagrin Falls did not consult with the Village before the detour was announced. The increased traffic is also damaging the roads, especially on Holbrook, where the edges are rapidly

deteriorating. The issue will be addressed with the Village Engineer. Likewise, the area of South Franklin Street is in poor condition. Mr. Miller believes that the East side of the street will be resurfaced this year by Solon and/or Bainbridge. Again, this issue will be brought to the Engineer.

Mr. Miller also requested that the Village consider repealing the Ordinance (416.05(h)) that requires that pedestrians should move off the roads and yield to vehicular traffic. Because there are no sidewalks, and very little shoulder, this presents a great difficulty to walkers, runners, and their pets. The Committee supports this suggestion.

Ken Kvacek noted that the Metroparks were closed on the evening for February 8 for deer culling. That situation presented difficulties for residents because they could not travel through the park, which situation was exacerbated by the Maple Street detour. Mr. Kvacek suggested that the Chief or Mayor should request that the Metroparks consider the detour in the future to avoid the extra inconvenience and potential access problems for safety vehicles.

Mr. Kvacek also suggested the purchase of a portable radar speed sign, which could be used currently on Holbrook to dissuade speeding or in other problem areas as needed. The Service Director will request to borrow one of Chagrin's units in the interim.

The meeting was concluded at 9:35 a.m.