

January 20, 2014

Mayor Adams called the meeting of Village Council to order on Monday, January 20, 2014 with all members present.

Moved by Kokovich second by Dickson that Council dispense with the reading of the December 9, 2013 minutes and approve as distributed. Motion carried.

Moved by Dickson, second by Bronner to nominate Essex for re-election to President of Council. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Visitors: John Lowe from The Daily Jeffersonian, Russ Brown and Greg Wilson

REPORTS

Fire Chief: Chief Gates gave the December monthly report. 8 fire runs with 194 fire runs year to date and 72 EMS patients with 914 patients for the year.

- 1) Reported that 3 grants have been submitted.
- 2) Reported that Santa Claus visited the children in the village before Christmas and was very well received.
- 3) EMS response time is down with no missed runs.

Mayor: Mayor Adams asked that council members submit their focal points/priorities at the February 10th council meeting.

- 1) Motion by Dickson, second by Essex to approve the 2014 Council Meeting Schedule. All voted yea. Motion carried.
- 2) Reported the Annual Report will be presented at the March 10th council meeting.
- 3) Reported that Council Committees for 2014 have been established as follows and will be published on the village website:
 - Safety – Brett Essex (Chair), Robert Dickson, Jennifer Lyle – Ex-Officio Greg Adams
 - Infrastructure – Robert Dickson (Chair), Jen Bronner, Bil Kerrigan – Ex-Officio John Huey
 - Policy – Jen Bronner (Chair), Steve Kokovich, Bil Kerrigan – Ex-Officio Greg Adams, John Huey, Lynn Marlatt
 - Finance – Steve Kokovich (Chair), Brett Essex, Jennifer Lyle – Ex-Officio Lynn Marlatt, Greg Adams, John Huey

Infrastructure: Nothing to report.

Finance: Nothing to report.

Safety: Essex reported committee met:

- 1) Essex explained that the second of three readings of the resolution to proceed with the submission to the electors of the Village of New Concord the question of a one half of one percent municipal income tax increase to provide for the operation of the Village Safety Services is on the agenda for approval.

- 2) Reported that the second of three readings of the ordinance to amend Ordinance I-2-02-1 to increase the village municipal income tax rates to one and one half percent upon approval by a majority of the electors of the Village of New Concord to fund the operation of the Village of New Concord Safety Services is on the agenda.
- 3) Discussed the need of the support for the increase in village municipal income tax to one and one half of one percent for the operation of the Village Safety Services.
- 4) Essex stated that council has discussed this previously and in 2013 it became necessary to convert to a paid/volunteer fire department due to the number of runs.
- 5) Reported that Ohio Fire Chief's Association representatives will present a Staffing and Financial Plan for the New Concord Fire Department on January 23rd at 5:00 in Village Hall and the consultant report will be made available as a public document posted on Village website when finalized.
- 6) Huey added that the "Safety Services" means Fire, EMS and Police Department.
- 7) Discussion of setting dates for a public forum to answer questions and address public concerns will be set at the January 27th council meeting.
- 8) Visitors attending meeting had general concerns/questions regarding need of income tax increase and distribution of the revenue received from increase – Mayor Adams addressed questions, stating that current revenue will not support the increased expenses with the paid personnel and volunteers could no longer meet the needs of the community with over 1,200 runs annually.
- 9) Huey added that council can amend Income Tax Ordinance in compliance with Ohio Revised Code at any time but cannot raise the rate without voter approval.

Policy: Kokovich reported committee met:

- 1) Committee agreed with 2014 Council Committee members as proposed.
- 2) Committee endorsed second reading of Ordinance No. E-1-14-1 to adopt a new Personnel Policy Manual for employees and officers of the Village.
- 3) Motion to accept Strategic Plan by Muskingum University Center for Regional Planning and Economic Development and post to Village website by Kokovich, second by Bronner. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer: Marlatt gave December monthly financial report.

- 1) Reported the Year to Date Fund Report 2013 shows total expenditure and revenue and the yearend balance of about \$883,000.
- 2) Reported Income tax was up about \$2,500 or slightly less than 1%.
- 3) Reported that the 2013 Budget Comparison Report will be emailed to council members this week, showing all revenue and expense accounts for the past five years.
- 4) Reported that the 2013 Year End Balances have been certified to the Auditor and that we should receive our 2014 certificate of available funds by the end of the month.

Huey continued to report:

- 1) Total carry over is down about \$36,000 mainly due to the additional expenses in the fire fund for the paid personnel which increased over \$80,000.
- 2) General Fund carryover reached the highest level for about five years at \$216,000 – this is approximate balance we should have on hand for unforeseen expenses.
- 3) Reported that Finance Committee will meet prior to January 27th meeting to go over budget comparison spread sheet.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: See list
Moved by Dickson, seconded by Bronner that the bills be approved for payment. All voted yea. Motion carried. Bills list on file in the Clerk's office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: -Village Council Meeting – January 27, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENTS: Motion by Dickson, seconded by Bronner to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer