

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in a regular session at the Amberley Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road on MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. Mayor Charles Kamine called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

<u>PRESENT:</u>	<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>
Charles Kamine	Bernie Boraten, Village Manager	
Jon Chaiken	Steve Cohen, Village Solicitor	
Fran Cohen	Jack Monahan, Police/Fire Chief	
Peg Conway	Rick Kay, Village Treasurer	
Louis Katz	Margie Crowley, Financial Administrator	
Leslie McIntosh	Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council	
Merrie Stillpass	Steve Rasfeld, Public Works Supervisor	

Mayor Kamine welcomed everyone, including Boy Scout Troop 393, to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amberley Village Council, and led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Kamine presented the minutes of the May 11, 2009, regular meeting with a correction to page three, changing salt price per ton from \$66.36 to \$66.30. Mrs. Cohen moved acceptance of the May minutes as amended. Seconded by Mrs. Conway. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Boraten presented the Finance Report for the month of April, 2009, which had been tabled at the May council meeting. Mr. Chaiken moved acceptance of the April Finance Report (copy attached). Seconded by Mrs. Cohen and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boraten then presented the May, 2009 Finance Report. Mr. Chaiken moved acceptance of the May Finance Report (copy attached). Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL**

Mr. Stan Cohen, P.E., resident at 2301 Royal Oak Court, presented a donation of a Lietz Sokisha 20-second engineer's precision transit to the Village maintenance department. Mr. Cohen described how the instrument functions and that it is typically utilized for all forms of building construction, drainage work, sewers and maintenance. He stated that the transit is in excellent condition, and would cost at least five thousand dollars if it were purchased new; and with reasonable care and adjustments it should provide excellent service for another thirty years.

The Mayor and Mr. Boraten thanked Mr. Cohen for this very much appreciated donation.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE:**

Ms. McIntosh reported that the committee had met and continued discussions regarding the waste removal options for the Village. She stated that she is hopeful that the contract will be bid in July.

Ms. McIntosh reported that on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a tour of Rumpke's recycling facility.

Ms. McIntosh also reported that the Village will host Hamilton County's training in this area for public health emergencies. Points of Dispensing (POD) sites are being identified in each community within Hamilton County. The training is from 6-8 p.m. and those interested should contact Carter Pitman with Hamilton County at 946-7889.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

Mrs. Conway reported that the committee has been working closely with the Village staff to launch a new website, which went live on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The address is the same – [amberlevillage.org](http://amberlevillage.org). Last year at this time, the Village realized significant savings on the newsletter which allowed the committee to consider enhancements to the website to benefit residents and to promote a positive image of the Village in general.

Mrs. Conway proceeded to show PowerPoint slides which illustrated the new website and its features. She reported that the committee chose to streamline the navigation, create a cohesive homepage and improve communication with the residents, while also maintaining the ability to easily edit content in-house. The company the Village contracted with is E-Gov, which works primarily with local governments. E-Gov designed the homepage and navigation based on the committee's input.

Mrs. Conway stated that the website will always be a work in progress. The site will serve well the dual objective of assisting the residents and presenting a positive image of the Village to the wider community. Mrs. Conway then thanked everyone who participated in the completion of the project.

### **EVALUATION:**

Mr. Katz reported that the committee met to discuss the compensation and health insurance for the Village staff. He stated that the committee is currently awaiting data regarding the health insurance options for the upcoming policy year prior to completing their review and recommendation process. A special council meeting has been set for June 24<sup>th</sup> to complete this process.

Mr. Katz reported that the Village Manager has been working with USI Midwest and the Center for Local Government to find the most cost savings options for the Village's health insurance program. The Center for Local Government has been investigating the option of the conversion to a self-insurance pool for employees' healthcare. Mr. Katz stated that the Center for Local Government would like communities to show their support to continue to pursue this option as it

may result in savings. Mr. Katz then moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2009-05, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO CONTINUE TO PARTICPATE IN THE CENTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S INVESTIGATION OF THE POSSIBLE CONVERSION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO A SELF-INSURANCE POOL FOR EMPLOYEES' HEALTHCARE. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

**BEAUTIFICATION:**

Mrs. Stillpass reported that the Village has obtained a grant for \$250 from the Jimmy F New Foundation, which was one of the sponsors of the Village's rain garden. This grant will allow for additional plants to be purchased for the rain garden.

Mrs. Stillpass reported that the garden awards program is underway. Categories for 'by professional' and 'by owner' will be separated and awards will be given in the following categories: Best Curb Appeal, Best Overall Landscape, Best Green Landscape, and Best Backyard Haven.

The next Beautification Committee meeting will be held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the community room at Village Hall.

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS & PARKS:**

Mrs. Stillpass reported that the committee has recommended that the Amberley Green property be opened to the Village residents for the purposes of walking, jogging, etc. The Village staff has been working to apply for a significant reduction of the property taxes on this land, should it be utilized as a park. This effort is an interim status for the property while the Citizen Advisory Committee continues to work toward a plan for the future use of this property.

Mayor Kamine reported that the staff was asked to analyze and prepare the start-up costs associated with opening the property as a park. Various items need to be completed to prepare the land for public use, including tree removal and repairs to the existing path.

Mrs. Stillpass moved to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2009-04, ORDINANCE AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009. Seconded by Mr. Katz and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Kamine, Chaiken, Cohen, Conway, Katz, McIntosh, Stillpass (7)  
NAY: (0)  
ABSENT: (0)

Mrs. Stillpass moved to approve the Ordinance passed as an emergency measure. Seconded by Mr. Katz and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Kamine, Chaiken, Cohen, Conway, Katz, McIntosh, Stillpass (7)  
NAY: (0)  
ABSENT: (0)

**STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS:**

Mr. Chaiken reported that on May 14<sup>th</sup> the Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana Regional Council of Governments' (OKI) Executive Board approved a resolution to move Amberley Village's Galbraith Road Rehabilitation project on to the Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) funding list authorizing \$1 million of ARRA Federal Stimulus Funds for the project. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2010.

The project will be an Ohio Department of Transportation administered program. As such, the Village must meet all ODOT requirements and standards in the completion of the project. The Village is currently in the process of reviewing and responding to those requirements. The committee will likely meet during the next few weeks with the Village Engineer to further discuss the project and ODOT standards.

Mr. Boraten then pointed out that the Village will coordinate with Cincinnati Water Works and Duke Energy for the replacement of water and gas mains in these areas prior to the start of the road rehabilitation.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

Chief Monahan reported that Amberley Officer Mike Koenig received the Hamilton County Honor Guard Officer of the Year Award. The police officer's written exam was on June 3 and the physical fitness testing will take place on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The walking track will be closed that day from 5 p.m. until dark due to the fitness testing. Additionally, the Village will host the Hamilton County Police Association meeting on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> and all members of council are invited to attend. The Village will also sponsor a Concealed Carry Weapons class. Interested individuals may contact the police department.

There being no further business, Mrs. Stillpass moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Cohen. The motion carried unanimously.

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Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

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Mayor Charles Kamine