

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in a regular session at the Amberley Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. Mayor Charles Kamine called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

**PRESENT:**

Charles Kamine  
Fran Cohen  
Peg Conway  
Louis Katz  
Leslie McIntosh  
Merrie Stillpass

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Bernie Boraten, Village Manager  
Steve Cohen, Village Solicitor  
Jack Monahan, Police/Fire Chief  
Rick Kay, Village Treasurer  
Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council  
Margie Crowley, Finance Administrator

**ABSENT:**

Jon Chaiken

Mayor Kamine welcomed everyone 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 October 13, 2009, regular meeting. Mr. Katz moved acceptance of the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Cohen. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Boraten presented the Finance Report for the month of October, 2009. Mrs. Cohen moved acceptance of the October Finance Report (copy attached). Seconded by Mr. Katz and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kamine noted that the election on November 3<sup>rd</sup> resulted in all council members returning to office, except for him, and Ed Hattenbach has been elected to represent District A. Mayor Kamine stated that the new council has been scheduled to be sworn in on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE:**

Mrs. McIntosh shared the Hamilton County Health District's most recent update regarding the H1N1 vaccine. The Hamilton County Public Health asked for help in informing residents with an update on the H1N1 flu vaccine supply, which comes in both a live, but weakened virus as a nasal spray form or injectable killed virus form. Both vaccines are used annually to prevent seasonal flu and are safe. The injectable form is an appropriate option for most people.

The slow distribution of the vaccine has stalled vaccination plans and as of November 6<sup>th</sup>, the demand has exceeded the supply.

It is highly recommended that individuals who fall in the highest risk group be vaccinated. These individuals include pregnant women, people who live with or care for children less than 6 months of age, children 6 months to 4 years of age and children 5 – 18 years with a chronic

health condition.

There are two types of clinics where you can receive these vaccinations. There are school clinics and appointment only clinics. For use of an appointment only clinic, it is highly recommended that you pre-register by going to the Public Health website <https://h1n1vaccine.odh.ohio.gov>. If you do not have a computer you are urged to go to the library or community center where you are provided with access to computers.

If you have questions, it is important to seek answers from credible sources such as the Center for Disease Control at CDC [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or [www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org](http://www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org).

Mrs. McIntosh also reported that the Health, Education and Welfare Committee along with the Public Outreach and Beautification Committees will host a mini-series of lectures. The first speaker will be Scott Beuerlein, owner of Heritage Gardens landscaping company. He will speak at 10:00 a.m. on November 21<sup>st</sup> at Village Hall. He will discuss diversity in both cultivated and wild landscapes, focusing especially on high-reward gardens that are easy on the environment and beneficial to wildlife. He will also demonstrate the positive impact gardeners can play in furthering diversity in the ecosystem and how unsustainable deer numbers are causing harm. Scott is a member of the Ohio Nursery and Landscapers Association, Professional Grounds Maintenance Society, and several other organizations.

**BEAUTIFICATION:**

Mrs. Stillpass reported that the next Beautification Committee meeting will be on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**FINANCE:**

Mrs. Stillpass reported, on behalf of Committee Chair Mr. Chaiken, that the committee met and discussed the Village's options for property and casualty insurance with Michael Fishel of Neace Lukens. The committee recommended renewing the Village's policy with PRIME/VFIS and McGowan/American Alternative. Mrs. Stillpass read and moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2009-12, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PRIME/VFIS AND MCGOWAN/AMERICAN ALTERNATIVE. Seconded by Mr. Katz and the motion carried unanimously.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Mayor Kamine, on behalf of Mr. Chaiken who was not present, gave a report related to the Planning Commission's most recent activity. Mayor Kamine reported that the Planning Commission has taken the zoning code under review for the purpose of creating rules and regulations related to the installation of new energy alternative systems. Residents who would like to provide input regarding this matter should get in touch with the Planning Commission.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

Mrs. Conway reported that the committee has reviewed a new feature for the website called CommunityLink. This new service has been offered to the Village by E-Gov, the Village's website vendor, at no charge. The feature will provide a template for the front page of the website which will group topics, such as the most recently added documents and events, and will also provide a new opportunity for residents to submit questions to Village Hall.

**LAW:**

Mr. Katz reported that the committee met to review an amendment to the tax ordinance which was proposed by the Village’s tax administrator, Kathy Harcourt. The amendment imposes penalty upon individuals who file late tax returns. Mr. Katz read and moved to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2009-19, ORDINANCE AMENDING VILLAGE INCOME TAX CODE TO IMPOSE FINES FOR FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE TAX RETURNS. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Kamine, Cohen, Conway, Katz, McIntosh, Stillpass (6)  
NAY: (0)  
ABSENT: Chaiken (1)

Mr. Katz moved to approve this ordinance as an emergency measure. Seconded by Mrs. Cohen and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Kamine, Cohen, Conway, Katz, McIntosh, Stillpass (6)  
NAY: (0)  
ABSENT: Chaiken (1)

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Mr. Boraten briefly noted that the storm water project on Aracoma Forest would be completed in approximately one week.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

Mayor Kamine reported that he distributed an email to council regarding the Village’s past practice of providing gift cards to the employees in lieu of a holiday party. He stated that each employee would receive a restaurant gift card in the amount of \$150.00, which is much less expensive than a holiday party. Mayor Kamine stated he would like to authorize the Village Manager to issue each Village employee a restaurant gift card in the amount of \$150.00. Mrs. Cohen moved the approval of the gift card purchase. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kamine then presented the following speech as outgoing Mayor:

*“In as much as this is the last regularly scheduled council meeting that I will participate in, I want to take a moment to comment on my tenure on the Amberley Village Council. First, I would like the compliment the effort of all of the employees of the Village. Over the 12 years I have served on Council, I have found the staff to be dedicated to the work of maintaining the Village and they have conducted themselves professionally in performing their work. I particularly want to thank the administrative staff, Anna Shaw, Nicole Browder, Margie Crowley, Kathleen Harcourt, and Steve Rasfeld, with whom I had the most contact over the years. This group does an excellent job for which I am proud and grateful.*

*In addition, I have worked with the Police Department in Mayor’s Court and have been greatly impressed by the professionalism of our entire department for which we all owe a debt of gratitude. Thank you Jack Monahan for the leadership you have shown over my entire tenure on council. I have worked most, of course, with our Village Manager, Bernie Boraten, who works diligently to prepare his staff for any problem that may be lurking on the horizon. He also has a near encyclopedic memory of the history of the Village, which has more than once proven*

*invaluable as a resource for us. Bernie thank you for all you have done to make my role as Mayor more pleasant and more productive.*

*I also want to thank Steve Cohen, our Village Solicitor. Steve has served in that capacity since I first was appointed to the Planning Commission and he has served with distinction performing the tasks of advisor to the Planning Commission, prosecutor in Mayor's Court, and general counsel to the Manager and to the committees. Steve's professionalism has been an asset to the Village.*

*When I first became Mayor six years ago, one of the most pressing issues before the Village was the financial condition. Prior members had projected our deficit spending and predicted that we would be out of funds within four to five years. I have here the monthly finance report for November 2003, which shows the Village had a total of inactive investments of \$6,070,507.00. Tonight's report shows inactive investment of \$6,047,979.00. That very modest diminution of our reserve funds is the result of careful planning and cautious spending by the council and administration. We did not slash services or raise taxes, nor did we allow ourselves to be intimidated into approving development based on the siren's call of increased tax revenue of such development, which would have permanently altered our Village.*

*To the councils who have served with me, the members who served with me previously, but are no longer here - Mark Muething, Bill Lennard, Cathy Cappel and Tim Carter; and to these fine servants - Leslie McIntosh, Peg Conway, Fran Cohen, Merrie Stillpass, Louis Katz and Jon Chaiken: I thank you for your courage, your vision, and your aid in moving Amberley in, what I believe was, the right direction. Your friendship, your civility and your professionalism make me proud to have served with you. I thank you for your support during these last six years and as the gavel gets passed next month to the newly elected council, which is this council plus Ed Hattenbach, I have great faith that the future of Amberley is in capable hands. Thank you."*

A standing ovation followed the Mayor's speech. There being no further business, Mr. Katz moved to adjourn the council meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

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Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

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Mayor Charles Kamine