

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in a regular session at the Amberley Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road on MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. Mayor Merrie Stillpass called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

<u>PRESENT:</u>	<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>
Jon Chaiken	Bernie Boraten, Village Manager	Ed Hattenbach
Fran Cohen	Lt. Rich Wallace, Police/Fire Dept.	Leslie McIntosh
Peg Conway	Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor	Jack Monahan, Police/Fire Chief
Louis Katz	Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council	Rick Kay, Village Treasurer
Merrie Stillpass		

Mayor Merrie Stillpass welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amberley Village Council, and led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Stillpass presented the minutes of the July 12, 2010, regular meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. There being none, Mayor Stillpass stated that the minutes stand approved as distributed.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Boraten presented the July, 2010, Finance Report (copy attached). Mayor Stillpass asked if there were any questions or comments. There being none, Mayor Stillpass announced that the finance report would be filed as received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Conway reminded everyone to attend the Village's Ice Cream Social event scheduled for Sunday, August 15th from 6-8:30 p.m. She commented that the new coordinators are doing a great job. United Dairy Farmers has provided the ice cream at a discounted rate this year, which was possible through a contact of Amy Rubenstein's.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Mrs. Conway, on behalf of Ms. McIntosh, reported that the recent Green Clearing event held at the Amberley Green attracted three new volunteers: John and Jean Wood, and Marlene Hoffman. The next Green Clearing event will be held on September 2nd from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The group will continue honeysuckle removal as well as undergrowth removal. More volunteers are needed for this effort. Mrs. Conway announced that the #9 top reason to attend the next Green Clearing event was that you could see Louis Katz in grubby work clothes instead of a business suit.

Mrs. Conway continued the report by reminding everyone that the Releaf program coordinated through the Cincinnati Park Board and TLC Landscaping is underway and orders forms will be available at the Ice Cream Social as well as on the Village website.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Chaiken reported that the Planning Commission met and, at the request of Council, worked to create draft legislation that would regulate energy alternative systems installed in the Village. He commented that the Council continues to be good stewards of the environment by providing such options to the residents. He stated that the Planning Commission recommends the drafted alternative energy systems ordinance, which was distributed to council, for adoption at the next council meeting.

Mr. Chaiken reported that there was much discussion among Village staff and Planning Commission members regarding the types of energy alternative systems available on the market and the effect of such installations in the Village. He commented that the wind turbines were the most intrusive of all installations. Therefore, the draft ordinance contains language prohibiting residential wind turbine installations, however, does allow wind turbine installations on commercial lots as a conditional use, which requires a conditional use permit.

General discussion was held among council regarding the various types of alternative energy systems.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Chaiken reported that last month the preliminary budget was approved; however, the committee continues to meet and discuss Village finances. He stated that like most other communities, Amberley Village is facing decreasing revenue with respect to state funds as well as increased demand for service. He stated that the committee is working to generate revenue and reduce expenses while maintaining a high level of service to the community. He invited residents to look for updates on the website as information becomes available.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Stillpass thanked the various council committees for all of their work. She stated that she is looking forward to the Ice Cream Social on Sunday. She reported that there are other upcoming activities and events, such as the "Play Me, I'm Yours" piano that is now available at the Mayerson J through September 17. Anyone can walk up and play the piano. There are 35 available around the Cincinnati area currently.

Additionally, the Mayerson J will host, on August 29th from 3-6 p.m., the Family Fun Fest event, which is free to all residents. At 6 p.m. there will be a 5K run in the northern part of the Village, so traffic may be congested in that area. There will also be a free music event in the evening.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Boraten reported that the work on the Galbraith Road improvement project has been focused on curb and concrete work recently. According to the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) schedule, the final course of asphalt is scheduled for the week of Labor Day. He stated that he has informed ODOT that there are important dates during that week in the Village. It was also pointed out that the current lane striping is temporary. This will be a new lane configuration and temporary signage will be posted to alert drivers.

Mr. Katz then asked Mr. Boraten if he could report on the Village's progress regarding utility aggregation. Mr. Boraten reported that various companies have been identified and a number of companies have made presentations to the Village. Staff has a plan to meet with those companies and then provide information on utility aggregation to the appropriate council committee for review. This effort will allow the Village to provide an opportunity for the residents to receive a reduction in their utility rates that an individual could not receive on their own.

Mr. Boraten then explained that there are two types of aggregation programs: Opt-In, which can be implemented by council's authority. Opt-Out must be placed on the ballot and voted upon by the residents.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Lt. Wallace, on behalf of Chief Monahan, reported that the police/fire department had once again successfully achieved re-accreditation status from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA). This process allows for an outside review of the department's operations and compliance with over 400 professional policy standards. The certification is for a three-year period and this is the department's fifth re-accreditation.

Mr. Katz then inquired if the Village's cost recovery program would be utilized to recover expenses related to the department's response to the gas line puncture incident that occurred last month. Lt. Wallace stated that he did look into the applicability of that incident and as a result, the cost recovery program does not apply in this type of situation. It only applies to auto accident response. Mr. Katz responded by stating that it was his suggestion that the Law Committee take the cost recovery program under advisement in an effort to expand it so that the Village could be reimbursed for additional types of incident responses.

Mayor Stillpass stated that there being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

Mayor Merrie Stillpass