

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in regular session at the Amberley Village Municipal Building, 7149 Ridge Road on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Muething called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

PRESENT:

Peg Conway
Ed Hattenbach
Elida Kamine
Thomas C. Muething
Natalie Wolf

ALSO PRESENT:

Rich Wallace, Police-Fire Department
Rick Kay, Treasurer
Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor
Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council
Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager

Mayor Muething welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Amberley Village Council. He led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Muething asked if there were any changes to the August 13, 2018 meeting minutes as distributed. There being none, he stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

FINANCE REPORT

Village Manager Scot Lahrmer presented the July 2018, Finance Report (a copy of which is attached hereto). Mr. Lahrmer reported a summary of this report and noted tax collections for the month of July totaled \$142,003. The total General Fund Revenue for the month of July was \$576,910 while expenses equaled \$313,289. At the end of July, the unencumbered General Fund balance was \$6,115,328. The report was accepted as submitted.

STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE

While Mr. Warren was out of town for this meeting, Mr. Hattenbach reported that the Village did not have to purchase salt last year and will need to do so this season. He noted the purchase would not be funded until next year. The price of salt has gone up to \$78.46 per ton as the market fluctuates. He stated the Village engages with Hamilton County in the purchasing process to garner a better price.

Mr. Hattenbach read, presented and moved to approve Resolution 2018-19, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with Hamilton County and Its Vendor for Furnishing Salt for Snow and Ice Control Purposes. Seconded by Ms. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Muething stated that the Village Manager and his staff did a good job of providing an analysis to the committee to figure out the exact amount to purchase.

Mr. Hattenbach next reported on the Village's application for the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant to fund the reconstruction of North and South Farmcrest Drive, and Municipal Road Funds for Kincaid. He explained the cost for the improvements is approximately \$1.5 million and the grants will alleviate some of the cost. The grant application proposes a 50% match of funds by the Village which would cost approximately \$800,000.

Mr. Hattenbach presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2018-20, Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the Ohio Public Works Transportation Improvement Programs. Seconded by Ms. Wolf and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Wolf stated that this is the Village's fourth attempt to get this grant. She shared that she has heard from residents since she's been on council regarding the condition of the streets and would like to hear what the Village will be planning next if this grant application is also turned down.

Mr. Lahrmer elaborated that the Village has taken different strategies in each application process to improve our chances of being approved. He stated that by adding in the cost sharing aspect it does give the application additional points. He also shared that this application proposes to borrow the money from the Ohio Public Works Commission, which means the Village can borrow the funds for one year and pay it off after the first year. This also gives the application additional points. He stated that in regards to where the Village goes next, it will be a discussion had by all.

Mayor Muething added that in the committee meeting Council Member Warren shared his experience after walking the streets and that Mr. Warren agreed with the residents that the roads are in poor shape.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lahrmer reported that the Village has issued a demolition permit for 9110 Ambercreek, the house that caught on fire in early June. Residents can expect to see this activity soon.

He shared that the Village recently had a very successful Ice Cream Social. He thanked all of the donors and also the generosity of Council Members, Stacey Lefton, Pete Duffy, Kathie Kraemer, Nancy Raeisi, Sandy Pywen, Rick Kay and Merrie Stillpass who donated lunch for the employees that worked the event.

Mr. Lahrmer announced that the Village will be temporarily suspending brush collection. The last week of brush will be October 1 through October 5. He stated leaf collection begins October 15 and this will be promoted to our residents as well.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Muething reported that at the last council meeting he mentioned he would bring forward a resolution that Council Member Kamine brought to our attention regarding excess state funds. Several communities are passing resolutions to request the state legislature and governor consider giving the state's excess surplus back to communities that have suffered reductions through cutting of the Local Government Fund.

Mayor Muething presented, read and moved to approve Resolution 2018-21, Resolution Urging the Ohio Governor and Members of the Ohio General Assembly to Invest the State Budget Surplus in Municipalities. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Muething announced the Environmental Stewardship Committee will meet next on September 24 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room. The next ESC Clean the Green will be held September 20th at 5:30 p.m. where the group will perform minor tree maintenance on the Amberley Green. Volunteers meet in the parking lot of the Amberley Green.

Next, Mayor Muething shared a letter from resident Nimet Jeruzalmi:

Dear Tom:

Amberley Village was my husband's first love since his student days at Hebrew Union College. When he became member of the faculty at HUC, the first thing he did was buy a house in Amberley Village and realize his dream of living in this special part of Cincinnati. We have been wonderfully happy in this rural and beautiful area where we raised our children, four professionals that still call Amberley their home, and visit very often. My husband was also a great gardener. We embellished our garden with many fruit trees, and season vegetable plants, but he was particularly memorized with the

beauty of Crepe Myrtles. He decided to share his love of these late summer blooming beauties with the general community by planting Crepe Myrtle trees on Village grounds. He lovingly dug the holes with his own hands, planted and watered them, achieving a beautiful landscape for all to enjoy. I am perpetuating his love by donating more plants to our beloved Village.

Mayor Muething added that there was also a donation made in memory of Nimet's husband, and she thanked her for the donation and the plantings.

Chief Wallace stated that he also received a letter from Nimet at the Police Department. He shared that they have always had a good relationship with the Jeruzalmis and it means a lot to the department to be able to help. He stated equipment will be purchased with the donation in honor of her late husband and she will be a part of the process.

Mayor Muething thanked Nimet again and stated that she and her husband truly are great residents of the Village.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Conway announced that Pleasant Ridge Montessori will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, September 25th from 6 – 7:30 p.m. She noted it would begin with Hands Around the School and that this will also be a celebration of the school's 10th anniversary. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Ms. Wolf reported that there is a new initiative by the Health, Education & Welfare Committee. It is part of the WeThrive! effort through Hamilton County, of which the Village is a charter member. She stated the committee will begin work on the Chronic Disease Pathway and noted that these efforts are designed to assist elected officials in prioritizing what kind of work they can do to improve their community in this regard. Carol Donnellon is taking the lead on this pathway. Interested residents can attend our first meeting scheduled for October 5th at 3:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

Mayor Thomas C. Muething