

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON AUGUST 4, 2008 AT 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Kevin Gilmore called the August 4, 2008 meeting of the Ottawa Hills Village Council to order at 7:31 p.m. Recognizing the absence of Clerk Treasurer Katherine O'Connell, Council member Reichert made a motion to appoint Marc Thompson as the acting Clerk Treasurer. Mr. Gibbs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Roll was then taken with Council members Jeffrey Gibbs, Jack Straub, Rex Decker, Jim Walter, and Robert Reichert present. Also present were Mayor Kevin Gilmore, Village Solicitor Sarah McHugh and Village Manager Marc Thompson. Council member Norma King was absent but was expected to be in attendance.

Members of the audience included Kurt Erichsen, Tim Walters, John Kusnier, Kathy Miller, Darryl Blanchard and Nasrin Afjeh.

Mayor Gilmore then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gilmore called on Kathy Miller to address the Council regarding the upcoming Fall Festival. Mrs. Miller reminded the Council that the Fall Festival received permission to place three signs at various locations prior to last year's Fall Festival. Those locations were on Richards Rd., near the Geresy Field tennis courts and near the sculpture garden on Bancroft St. Mrs. Miller continued asking for permission to erect three additional signs, one on Manchester Rd., one on Central near Exmoor, and one on Central at Indian Rd.

She reminded everyone that the Fall Festival scheduled for September 27 between 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The signs would be in place for approximately one week before the date of the Fall Festival.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lauer entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Reichert made a motion to approve the request for a total of six signs. Mr. Walter seconded the motion. Brief discussion followed regarding the island at Indian and Central. Concern was expressed that the signs not create any site distance or vision problems for motorists attempting to exit onto Central Ave.

The motion to approve the request was unanimously approved by the Council.

Mayor then called on Kurt Erichsen and Tim Walters to provide a brief presentation regarding a proposed wetlands mitigation inventory project involving Ottawa Hills' property in the 4100 block of Brookside Rd. The two TMACOG representatives provided a lengthy PowerPoint presentation describing two proposed projects in the area of the sledding hill on the 4100 block of Brookside Rd. These projects would be placed in an inventory for future mitigation of damaged wetlands at other locations.

Mrs. King entered the meeting during the presentation.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr. Erichsen stated that the next step, should the Council be interested, would be to submit the site for inclusion on the inventory. If the

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Council elected to submit the site it would not include a commitment to go forward. Any actual work on the site would require another approval by the Council. He made it clear that there was no mandate for the Village to proceed.

In response to a question from Mr. Decker, John Kusnier of Mannik & Smith confirmed that there was no commitment attached to placing the site on the inventory. Nothing would proceed until all involved agencies have provided approval.

Mr. Reichert asked about mosquito counts. Mr. Kusnier indicated that healthy wetlands don't add to mosquitoes and that there would be natural predators resulting from the project which would help reduce mosquitoes.

Mr. Blanchard stated that he was against the project and referred to previous TMACOG proposals which were unrealistic. Mr. Blanchard attended a more thorough discussion of the project which occurred on July 22 and asked about mosquitoes at that point.

Mrs. Robert Lauer of Sulphur Spring Rd. stated that she has lived adjacent to the proposed development area for 43 years. She stated that she did not want this project and was concerned about potential deed restrictions on the property. She stated that she did not want anyone to "monkey around" with the meadow and would lead a petition drive against the project.

Mr. Decker stated that the mosquitoes in the area have been particularly bad recently and that many citizens have felt like prisoners in their own homes. He noted that one option involved planting only and no significant earth work which would result in water retention. The second project would involve some earth work and some retention of water.

Mr. Decker continued stating that a decision to go forward at this point means that the projects would be put on a list. It does not mean that the projects will actually be constructed. He also stated that Village resident Hans Gottgens is in support of the project although a number of questions remain.

Mr. Lauer commented that the small area of the proposed improvements would not make a significant difference in the water quality in the Ottawa River. Mr. Kusnier responded that the entire area is being analyzed for sites. This is a small piece of a very large problem and that it would be a positive step in the proper direction. He also stated it could be a pleasing enhancement for the meadow area and for people in the area.

Mayor Gilmore commented that he had heard support from citizens on the project. Mr. Straub reported that the recent meeting of the Equipment, Utilities, Buildings & Grounds committee resulted in two votes to move forward on the project and one abstention.

Mr. Decker commented about the possibility of moving forward to put the project on the inventory list, which would allow an opportunity to gain more information. Mr. Kusnier stated that putting the project on the list does not make a commitment on the part of the Village and does not lock in the property at this point. After actual work is completed then

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the project would become part of the wetlands and it would be very difficult to reverse the process.

Mr. Decker suggested that the committee get additional input from Hans Gottgens.

Mr. Blanchard asked if there was a quid pro quo for a development or a developer already identified.

Mr. Straub stated that everyone he has heard from has expressed opposition. Two concerns have been addressed primarily, one was the concern about mosquitoes and standing water and the other was change from the current appearance which many people find attractive.

Mr. Decker stated that no decision had to be made at this point and that perhaps a study of the runoff from the drainage course would be appropriate. Mr. Straub made a commitment to publicize any future meetings so that interested citizens could attend.

Mr. Gibbs asked if there were any studies which showed that healthy wetlands reduce mosquito populations. Mr. Walters indicated that he would research that but was unaware of any specific studies.

Mayor Gilmore directed the Equipment, Utilities, Buildings & Grounds Committee to continue its deliberations on the subject.

Moving onto other business, Mr. Reichert made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7 Council meeting. Mr. Gibbs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker reviewed two pieces of legislation on the agenda, Ordinance 2008-6 and Resolution 2008-16. Ordinance 2008-6 is a supplemental appropriation ordinance made necessary primarily to accommodate increased costs in the various construction projects scheduled for 2008. Resolution 2008-16 authorizes a transfer of \$330,000 from the income tax fund.

Mr. Decker informed the Council that estate tax revenues to-date have been approximately \$1,082,000 compared to an estimated income of \$400,000. Therefore, with the increase in costs for construction projects and the \$100,000 commitment to the school turf project the increased estate tax will have a net benefit of approximately \$140,000.

Mr. Walter reported that the yard waste collection program is working well so far this year. A surprising number of citizens have taken advantage of the collection at the rear of the house.

He also stated that the Free Press delivery has commenced again with a number of complaints regarding the Free Press being delivered in driveways throughout the Village.

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Mr. Reichert reported on progress of the Forestview, Falmouth, Brookside paving project and mentioned that legislation was on the agenda for the second major project of the year involving streets in the Pembroke area.

Mr. Straub reported that the Equipment, Utilities, Buildings & Grounds Committee met recently and began an in-depth study of sanitary and storm sewer lines. The Village is going to undertake a program of televising storm and sanitary lines in the area where the recent flooding occurred.

Mr. Gibbs reported on a recent meeting of the Marketing Advisory Committee. He stated that we were beginning to receive deliverables from the project and discussed the issues related to the website "Homes for Sale" problems. He stated that Lynn Fruth of the Danberry Co. has been very helpful but there may not be a satisfactory resolution. He reviewed the ongoing projects regarding the realtor outreach program which will involve an October tour of homes, continuing education credits and a presentation regarding the Village. He also stated that gateway signage was proceeding in the design phase and that Team Z was working on the new resident handbook and a marketing piece for the Village.

Solicitor McHugh stated that there was an item for executive session which she wished to review with the Council.

Attention then turned to legislation.

Ordinance 2008-6	Making appropriations and deductions from previous appropriations and amending Ordinance 2007-19 and 2008-2, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Decker moved to dispense with the rule requiring an Ordinance be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker moved for the passage of the Ordinance as an emergency measure. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker moved for final passage of the Ordinance as an emergency measure and Mr. Straub seconded, the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 6 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 2008-14	Authorizing a contract with Buckeye Asphalt for repair and resurfacing of pavement on the grounds of the Jean W. Youngen municipal building, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Straub moved to dispense with the rule requiring a Resolution be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Reichert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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Mr. Straub moved for the passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure. Mr. Reichert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Straub moved for final passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure and Mr. Reichert seconded, the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 6 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 2008-15	Authorizing a contract with Crestline Paving and Excavating for repair and resurfacing of Pembroke Road, Northmoor Road, Sheraton Road, Dunkirk Road, Halifax Road and Hawthorne Road in the Village of Ottawa Hills and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Reichert moved to dispense with the rule requiring a Resolution be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Reichert moved for the passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Reichert moved for final passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure and Mr. Straub seconded, the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 6 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Resolution 2008-16	Authorizing the transfer of \$330,000 from the income tax fund to the capital projects fund of the Village of Ottawa Hills, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Decker moved to dispense with the rule requiring a Resolution be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Reichert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker moved for the passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure. Mr. Reichert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

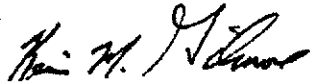
Mr. Decker moved for final passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure and Mr. Reichert seconded, the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 6 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Mrs. King made a motion to move into executive session for the purpose of discussion of acquisition of real property. Mr. Reichert seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council moved into executive session at 9:02 p.m. Council returned to regular session at 9:14 p.m.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Village Council would be on September 8, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Kevin Gilmore, Mayor