

North Lewisburg Village Council Regular Meeting

June 11, 2024

The Village of North Lewisburg Council met on June 11, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the Village Community Room.

Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order. Roll Call was answered by Mrs. Huffman, Mr. Nobbs, Mrs. Street, Mrs. Warner and Mr. Warner. Ohashi was absent and excused. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Huffman made a motion to accept the May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes, Mr. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Mrs. Street made a motion to accept the financials, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor.

MAYOR:

Mayor Murphy informed council that the Budget Committee will meet at 6:00pm prior to the July 9th council meeting for the Tax Budget Hearing.

Tim Durham was welcomed to the meeting. Tim introduced himself as "Write In" Candidate for Champaign County Sherriff. Tim is a lifelong resident of Champaign County and Retired Ohio State Highway Patrol Sergeant. Tim has 28 years of experience in the State of Ohio. Tim's goal for Champaign County is to create an environment where all departments within the county work together. Tim thanked the Council and all in attendance for their time and allowing him to speak.

Mayor Murphy addressed the Firemen's Association in regards to the donation for fireworks. We have two council members that will abstain from a vote tonight which leaves us unable to approve a donation at this time. Captain Grey and Firefighter Warner did clarify that the Fireworks for this year are set for July 13th and that the donation of \$3125.00 from council that the association is asking for is to be able to pay for fireworks next year. Mayor Murphy thanked Captain Grey for the clarification and stated that we will address this at the July meeting.

Mayor Murphy asked for a motion to appoint Alicia Davis as Fiscal Officer for the Village and remove Richard Ford as Interim Fiscal Officer. Mr. Nobbs made a motion to appoint Alicia Davis to the position of Fiscal Officer for the Village and remove Richard Ford as Interim Fiscal Officer, Mr. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Mayor Murphy asked council for a motion to contract with Richard Ford for an undetermined length of time for training of the new Fiscal Officer and through the fiscal audit process. Mrs. Warner made a motion to contract with Richard Ford for an undetermined length of time for training of the new fiscal officer and through the fiscal audit process, Mrs. Street seconded, all in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Freyhof asked council for July 5th 2024 to be a "no pay, no penalty" day for Village employees with the Wastewater and Water working their required 2 hours. Mr. Nobbs made a motion to approve July 5th 2024 as a "no pay, no penalty" day for the village employees with Wastewater and Water working their required 2 hours. Mrs. Street seconded, all in favor.

Update on Codification process. Administrator Freyhof reported that he and Attorney Zook are through the preliminary reviews and we have a lot of 30+ year old fine amounts, missing date several missing ordinances and some ordinances that are not legible. This will be up to the Village and Legal Counsel to resolve. We will probably involve the Records Retention Committee in this process.

Administrator Freyhof asked the Council for determination on the Disc Golf Grant. Do we have the funds to move forward? We hate to give up grant money and it would be a nice addition for the Village. There was some flooding to a portion of the area this spring. Mr. Warner motioned to move forward with the Disc Golf, Mrs. Street seconded. Huffman stated that she was undecided and concerned with the flooding. After further discussion and information presented that the flooding occurs during heavy rains and the layout of the course could still be changed, Mayor Murphy asked for Roll Call. Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes; Mr. Warner, yes. Administrator Freyhof stated that he would process the order for the baskets.

Administrator Freyhof reported that the damaged electric dog fence cost the home owner \$873.00 and asked the council if the Village should reimburse the home owner. Mr. Warner stated the in the past we have given credit on the Water/Sewer bill in leu of writing a check to the home owner. Mrs. Street stated that we should pay for a portion of the total amount. Mr. Nobbs made a motion to credit the home owner \$40.00 each month towards the Water/Sewer Bill for a negotiated amount not to exceed the \$873.00 repair cost, Mr. Warner seconded, all in favor. Administrator Freyhof stated that he would contact the home owner.

Administrator Freyhof reported that the Law Office of Wagner, Maurice, Davidson and Zook is closing. Attorney Zook is going to a firm in Columbus. Administrator Freyhof is getting quotes for replacing Attorney Zook. Attorney Zook will continue with the EPA Fines case and the Codification process.

STAFF REPORTS:

Police:

The Monthly Police report was presented by Chief Bodey. For the period of May 13th – June 10th 2024 there were 18 Warnings and 3 Citations for Traffic Violations. There was 1 Warrant Arrest, 1 underage drinking Arrest.

Chief Bodey report that there has been an increase in more people running around the Village at night since school has been out. One incident resulted in an underage drinking arrest.

The new Durango Police Cruiser is here and in service. One citizen reported that there have been 2 motorcycles running up and down Weldon Lane at an excessive speed. Chief Bodey state that the police would look into the situation.

Water/Sewer:

Administrator Freyhof reported that there was only 1 bid for the Waste Water Bridge in the amount of \$371,396.30. We have received a recommendation to accept the bid. The quote for a bridge inspector to monitor the work was quoted at approximately \$42,000. The numbers aren't matching up percentage wise on the bridge bid. When the bid went out the Engineer's Estimate was listed as \$316,000.00 and, on the letter to accept the above stated bid the Engineer's estimate was listed at \$346,000.00. We have spoken with Grant writers and its possible the bridge qualifies for critical infrastructure but it would take a while. Do we look at something temporary? I've been advised by RCAP against installing a temporary structure over a state scenic river. Attorney Zook did speak with the Ohio EPA regarding the 208 Plan and the EPA did state that the Bridge and Waste Water Plant would not be affected by the 208 Plan. Administrator Freyhof ask the council if we accept the above bid or deny the above bid. Mr. Warner made a motion to deny the bid for the bridge, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Administrator Freyhof reported on the Wastewater Plant Upgrade, overflow tile, inflow and infiltration. We have interviewed an engineering firm named Wessler. They would formulate a study to determine if the best option is

to rebuild existing, build new or regionalize. Administrator Freyhof is currently having discussions with other engineers. We are considering a new engineer for the waste water. Any planning we have completed can transfer to a new engineer. We currently have an unpermitted overflow tile. We need to correct our ground water infiltration. The increase in water infiltration decreases our bacteria that is needed in the wastewater system. We currently have one loan through 2029 and another through 2047. We are not in a place where we can take on another loan with no principal forgiveness.

We are completing preparation for the painting of the East Water Tower on 6/24/24. Temporary water tanks will be set in place on Tuesday June 18th 2024. There will be fluctuation in water pressure for the next 70 days. The project should be completed by August 30, 2024(weather permitting). Notices have been placed on the municipal building door, on Facebook and the Village website.

Zoning:

The Planning Commission has proposed to hear zoning map changes, changing zoning to B2 on East Maple Street from Spain's Service Center to the Corporation line. Administrator Freyhof has advertised and mailed letters. The first reading is July 2 at 6:30 PM in the Village Community Room.

Other:

Administrator Freyhof asked the council for a motion to sell the Police Ambulance to Ohio Hi-Point JVS for \$575.00. Chief Bodey reported that the Ambulance was donated to the police department and they had planned to use it as a crime scene unit. In order to get the Ambulance to North Lewisburg we had to purchase batteries in the amount of \$575.00. At this time the department feels that the ambulance just sitting and not being run will cause more upkeep than use and feel it is best to sell it for the cost of the batteries. Mrs. Street made a motion to sell the Police Ambulance to Ohio Hi-Point JVS for the amount of \$575.00, Mrs. Huffman seconded, all in favor.

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE:

Ordinance 290 Establishing and Regulating Truck Routes and declaring an emergency was read. Mr. Nobbs made a motion to adopt Ordinance 290, Mrs. Street seconded, all in favor. Motion passed 5yes, 0 no.

Ordinance 291 Amending the Zoning Regulations of the Village of North Lewisburg was read. Mr. Warner made a motion to adopt Ordinance 291, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor. Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Murphy reminded those in attendance that persons desiring to address and or introduce legislation to the Village Council, shall need to submit their request (topic) to the Administrator (2) two business days preceding the regular and/or called meeting.

Mayor Murphy opened the floor to the Citizens.

Ronald Dalzell asked to address the group. Mayor Murphy excused himself as Mr. Dalzell is a member of the same church as Mayor Murphy.

Mr. Dalzell introduced himself and stated that he resides at 701 Mill Street Lot 172. Mr. Dazell stated that on Good Friday (March 29, 2024) he had a water line break and could not get his water shut off valve turned. The Village Office was closed and Mr. Dazell stated that he was able to get ahold of the police and the police in turn called the Administrator, who called in one of the Village employees to shut off the water. Mr. Dalzell was charged a \$100.00 Turn off Fee as it was a Holiday. Mr. Dalzell asked the council for forgiveness of the \$100.00

fee. Mrs. Street made a motion to not give relief for the \$100.00 Turnoff fee, Mrs. Huffman seconded. Roll call, Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, Abstained as citizen is a client of his; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes; Mr. Warner, yes. Motion passed 4 yes, 1 Abstain. Administrator Freyhof informed Mr. Dalzell that there is a payment plan option and if he would like to pursue that option to stop by the office during office hours.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Warner made a motion to enter in to Executive Session for the consideration of the compensation of a public employee or official, Mr. Nobbs seconded, all in favor. Executive Session entered at 7:58 PM

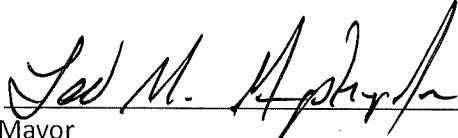
Mrs. Street made a motion to exit Executive Session, Huffman seconded, all in favor. Executive Session ended at 8:30 PM.

Mr. Nobbs made a motion to set the salary for Fiscal Officer Alicia Davis at \$52,000.00 per year with 3 weeks of vacation per year, Mr. Warner seconded, all in favor.

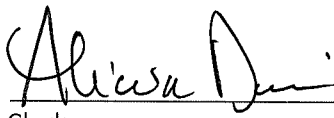
Mrs. Street made a motion to increase the salary of Administrator Todd Freyhof to \$70,000.00 per year effective retroactive to his anniversary date, increase his vacation to 5 weeks per year, and to correct his 2023 pay increase making it retroactive to his 2023 anniversary date, Mrs. Huffman seconded, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

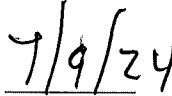
Mrs. Street motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk



Date