

**MINUTES OF MEETING
INDIAN HILL VILLAGE COUNCIL
March 16, 2015**

A meeting of the Indian Hill Village Council was held on March 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Village Administration building.

Officials present:

Mr.	Keith M. Rabenold, Mayor
Mr.	Daniel J. Feigelson, Vice-Mayor
Mrs.	Molly R. Barber, Council member
Mrs.	Melissa S. Cowan, Council member
Mr.	Mark D. Kuenning, Council member
Mrs.	Laura S. Raines, Council member
Mr.	Abbot A. Thayer, Council member
Ms.	Dina C. Minneci, City Manager
Mr.	Donald L. Crain, City Solicitor
Mr.	Paul C. Riordan, Clerk/Comptroller

Visitors present:

Mr.	Francis X. Grossi, 4575 Willow Hills Lane
Mr.	Don McGraw, 8380 Shawnee Run Road

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: The minutes of the regular meeting of February 23, 2015 had previously been distributed to each Council member. Council member Thayer made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Council member Barber and was approved as corrected, 7-0.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Mr. Francis X. Grossi, 4575 Willow Hills Lane introduced himself to Council as a junior at Cincinnati Country Day High School. He was present at the meeting because he was working on a merit badge with the Boy Scouts.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Kuenning directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Finance Committee*". He reported that the Finance and Water Works committees met for a combined meeting on March 6, 2015 to review several issues in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Kuenning reported that staff presented to the Finance and Water Works committees its water rate analysis, which will be reported by the Water Works committee later in the Council meeting.

Council member Kuenning directed Council's attention to the February 2015 financial statements which were included in the Council packet. Council member Kuenning reported the following financial report.

- a. **Income Tax Receipts:** The Village received \$90,198 which is approximately \$41,000 more than received in February 2014. The bulk of the receipts will be received in a few months.
- b. **Real Estate Tax:** The Village received \$250,000 in February which is \$60,000 less than received in January 2014. The first half settlement will be forthcoming in March and it is anticipated that receipts will be on budget.

- c. **Operating Disbursements:** February operating disbursements equate to \$847,000 which is about \$100,000 more than February 2014. This is due to timing issues on payments which are explained in the notes to the financial statements.
- d. **CIRF:** Disbursements for the month totaled \$5,668. This cost includes payment toward patrol vehicles.
- e. **Water Works Receipts:** Water usage receipts for February were \$175,000 which is approximately \$22,000 more than February 2014 receipts. It appears that receipts are tracking close to budget.
- f. **Water Works Disbursements:** Disbursements appear to be a little skewed because the Village has not been billed for the sewer reimbursement which is expected to be received in March.
- g. **Cash and Investments:** Total month-end cash and investments were \$23,763,175 which is a decrease of approximately \$100,000 from last month to fund normal operations and an increase of about \$500,000 from this time last year.
- h. **Rowe Funds:** The market value as of February 28, 2015 was \$3,176,279. The unrecognized gain was \$803,398. Total monthly earnings equated to \$7,835. The objective of the fund is to produce income so the investments are in large capital stocks which also helps to reduce volatility.
- i. **Green Areas Funds:** The market value as of February 28, 2015 was \$2,243,356. The unrecognized gain was \$972,130. The investments are in one of the Vanguard Index Funds. The Finance committee will be looking at all the investments over the next month.

The financial statements for February 2015 had previously been distributed to each Council member. There being no exceptions noted, the financial statements were accepted as issued.

Council member Kuenning reported that he gave the Finance committee a legislative update. He explained that he, along with Mayor Rabenold and staff, will be meeting with representatives from the City of Wyoming to discuss HB64 and to find ways to work collaboratively to assist in implementing amendment language which protects a qualified municipal corporation's use of Ohio AGI as its tax base. A conference call occurred with Senator Jones to discuss the amendment language, and Mr. Kuenning discussed the same with Mr. Tom Zaino of the Ohio Society of CPA's.

Council member Kuenning explained that one of the policies Governor Kasich wants to implement in the areas of taxation that will negatively affect Indian Hill is the proposal to exempt from taxation the income from passive entities with sales less than \$2,000,000. Governor Kasich's proposal has come under great scrutiny and fire from many different areas including those from within his own caucus. Council member Kuenning said that it is not known how many of the proposals will pass; however, Indian Hill has worked toward getting the language fixed in the event the one proposal passes.

Council member Kuenning reported that the Finance committee reviewed a draft agenda for the Indian Hill Community Forum scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. He said that the Finance committee agreed to have the Mayor begin the session with opening remarks and staff introductions. After the Mayor's presentation, each Council member will provide a brief overview of their respective chaired committees. The City Manager will provide a brief overview of highlighted issues for 2016, and then the forum will proceed into a question and answer session for all attendees. The forum also will include a display of the new Indian Hill fire house renderings that is expected to be constructed in 2016.

Council member Kuenning reported that the Finance committee reviewed preliminary schematic designs for the Indian Hill fire house and provided feedback.

Council member Kuenning reported that the Finance committee agreed to change the time of the May 8, 2015 Finance committee meeting to Monday, May 11, 2015 at 7:30 a.m. to allow staff to attend a strategic planning session at MVRMA.

Council member Kuenning reported that Finance committee convened into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition and/or sale of property, including real, personal, tangible, and intangible property.

LAW COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Raines directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Law Committee*". She reported that the Law committee met on March 5, 2015 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Raines reported that Mr. Crain presented to the Law committee the February/March legal activity report which centered on Green Areas transactions, legal case updates, contract interpretations and Mayor's Court activities.

Council member Raines reported that the Law committee also reviewed a draft agenda for the Indian Hill Community Forum and reviewed preliminary schematic designs for the Indian Hill fire house and provided their feedback.

Council member Raines reported that staff provided the Law committee with an update on the Green Area parcel on SR 126 across from the Grand Valley entrance. After the owner of the property adjacent to it clears off the debris and utility pole, staff will eliminate the driveway while maintaining a small curb cut in case needed in the future. The driveway was on the property when the Village acquired it. Staff will distinguish the newly renovated green area parcel with trees, re-planted grass and other greenery.

Council member Raines reported that staff provided the Law committee with an update on the collaborative efforts taking place regarding the façade easement request from last month's meeting.

Council member Raines reported that the Law committee agreed to change the time of the May 7, 2015 Law committee meeting from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. due to the National Day of Prayer event at 7:30 a.m.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Mayor Rabenold directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Buildings and Grounds Committee*". He reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee met on March 10, 2015 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Mayor Rabenold reported that Messrs. Adkins and Kipp provided the Buildings and Grounds committee with the departmental activity and project management reports, copies of which were attached to the meeting minutes. Mayor Rabenold reported that Mr. Adkins highlighted to the Buildings and Grounds committee the appropriations for the spring season and the whole Village facilities. He reported that Mr. Kipp gave an update on the progress of the Grand Valley office building construction.

Mayor Rabenold reported that ideas and comments on the Grand Valley Master Plan update have been submitted. An internal meeting will take place over the next week to organize these ideas for a presentation to the Grounds committee at next month's meeting. Also, staff is organizing dates for a Grand Valley Advisory committee meeting to take place in April before the Community Forum. The Grand Valley Advisory committee will receive notice about this meeting shortly.

Mayor Rabenold reported that the Village Garden Club of Indian Hill gave a \$100 donation to Grand Valley. A letter of appreciation was sent.

Mayor Rabenold reported that staff discussed a Bulletin article request from a former resident regarding pet owner responsibility within the Village parks. Staff continues to work on options, including possible legislative changes, to assist with this continual issue.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Barber directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Public Works Committee*". She reported that the Public Works committee met on March 10, 2015 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Barber reported that that Messrs. Adkins and Kipp provided the Public Works committee with the departmental activity and project management reports, copies of which were attached to the committee meeting minutes.

Council member Barber explained that Mr. Adkins gave an update on the snow events since the winter season began. At this point, 18 events have occurred in the Village with 33.75 inches of snow accumulation. Over 1,040 hours of overtime have been incurred; however, the Village is still within budget. In addition, she said that salt supplies still remain viable after the use of over 2,000 tons.

Council member Barber reported that Mr. Kipp provided an overview on the grant application process for the Blome Road project. She said that due to a technicality it was not initially approved, but it will be resubmitted and staff is working with a consultant to better understand several of the intricacies of the grant to increase our chances for the next round.

WATER WORKS REPORT: Council member Cowan directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Water Works and Deregulation Committee*". She reported that the Finance and Water Works committees met for a combined meeting on March 6, 2015 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Cowan reported that the Water Works Departmental Activity and Project Activity reports had been distributed to the Water Works committee prior to the meeting and the Water Works committee members did not have any questions concerning these reports.

Council member Cowan reported that the Village staff presented its water rate analysis to the Water Works and Finance committees. Historical information was presented which highlighted the Village's last water rate increase (May 2008) in addition to the last five years of total water usage (range of 700,000 to 900,000 hundred cubic feet) and revenue intake (\$2,100,000 to \$2,600,000). She explained that a ten year cash flow analysis also was reviewed and included anticipated operating and capital expenditures through 2024.

Council member Cowan reported that Mr. Adkins provided the Water Works committee with an overview of the water main improvements and other significant capital expenditures that are

anticipated. Such improvements are needed as much water main infrastructure has been extended past its life span, water main breaks are numerous, demand is higher and improvements will assist with water volume.

Council member Cowan explained that staff also presented a plan to review the water rates every two years to ensure the operating and capital fund balances are at levels which sustain high quality service for water users.

Council member Cowan reported that the Water Works and Finance committees reviewed the budgetary effects of implementing different water rate increases to determine what is needed to efficiently run the Water Works department. The Water Works committee took care in evaluating how any potential increase impacts water users. She said that after a thorough discussion, the Water Works and Finance committees recommended a 3.5% increase in the water rate beginning on June 1, 2015.

Council member Cowan reported that subsequent to the Water Works and Finance committees meeting, the committee members decided to table the first reading of the water rate increase. Additional analysis will be provided and reviewed next month when the Water Works and Finance committees will have another combined meeting on April 10, 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

Council member Cowan moved to table the first reading of the Ordinance titled, *An Ordinance Changing the Rates to be Charged for Water Supplied to Customers by Amending Section 51.55 Rates of the Code of Ordinances*. The motion was seconded by Council member Kuenning and was passed by unanimous voice vote.

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Feigelson directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Safety Committee*". He reported that the Safety committee met on March 5, 2015 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Feigelson reported that Chief Ashbrock presented the Fire/EMS report for February, a copy of which is attached in the committee meeting minutes. Chief Ashbrock indicated that Indian Hill EMS runs have increased since the beginning of the year, but due to no specific circumstances.

Council member Feigelson reported that Chief Ashbrock also discussed the fire incident that happened at 7405 Given Road.

Council member Feigelson reported that Colonel Schlie presented the Rangers' Activity Report for February, a copy of which is attached in the committee meeting minutes. He explained that Chief Schlie congratulated his department for searching and arresting those responsible for burglaries on Miami Road and its vicinity. The suspects currently are in the Campbell County jail but will be transported to the Hamilton County Jail. Council member Feigelson praised the Rangers' and said that they know what they are doing.

Council member Feigelson reported that the Safety committee reviewed preliminary schematic designs for the Indian Hill fire house and provided feedback. He said that Chief Ashbrock gave an overview of the functionality associated with the building's layout.

Council member Feigelson reported that the Safety committee agreed to change the time of the May 7, 2015 Safety committee meeting from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. due to the National Day of Prayer event at 7:30 a.m.

Council member Feigelson reported that the Safety committee convened into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition and/or sale of property, including real, personal, tangible, and intangible property.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Council member Thayer reported that the Planning Commission did not meet due to lack of agenda items.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Minneci had previously distributed the Village Annual Report to each Council member. She explained that there has been almost 1,000 "hits" on the website to view the report. She explained that it is on the website for all the residents to view and there will be an announcement about it being on the website.

Council member Feigelson requested that a notice of the Annual Report be included in the *Indian Hill Bulletin* and Ms. Minneci said it would be in the *Indian Hill Bulletin*.

Ms. Minneci reported that there would be a bird watch this Saturday at the Grand Valley Preserve.

Ms. Minneci reported that April 25, 2015 is the Grand Valley Fishing Tournament from 7:00 a.m. until 12 noon.

Ms. Minneci reported that April 27, 2015 is the Community Forum at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Rabenold declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith M. Rabenold, Mayor

ATTEST:

Paul C. Riordan, Clerk