

**MINUTES OF MEETING
INDIAN HILL VILLAGE COUNCIL
April 22, 2019**

A meeting of the Indian Hill Village Council was held on April 22, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Village Administration building.

Officials present:

- Mr. Mark D. Kuenning, Mayor
- Mrs. Melissa S. Cowan, Vice-Mayor
- Mr. John B. Armstrong, Council member
- Mr. Stephen H. Krehbiel, Council member
- Mr. Donald C. McGraw, Council member
- Mr. Abbot A. Thayer, Council member

Officials Absent:

- Mrs. Monique A. Sewell, Council member
(present for Executive Session)
- Ms. Dina C. Minneci, City Manager
- Mr. Scott D. Phillips, City Solicitor
- Mr. Paul C. Riordan, Clerk/Comptroller

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

MINUTES: The minutes of the regular meeting of March 25, 2019 had previously been distributed to each Council member. Council member Armstrong made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Council member Cowan and was approved, 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council member Thayer made a motion for Council to move into Executive Session for purpose of discussing property sale and/or acquisition and conferencing with the Village attorney concerning disputes that are subject of pending or imminent court action. The motion was seconded by Council member Cowan and was carried by unanimous voice vote 7-0. Council entered into Executive Session. Council returned from Executive Session and resumed the Council meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Mayor Kuenning, in Council member Sewell's absence, directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Finance Committee*". He explained that the Finance committee met on April 12, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Mayor Kuenning also directed Council's attention to the March financial statements which were included in the Council packet.

Mayor Kuenning presented the following financial report:

- a) **Income Tax Receipts:** The Village received \$409,246 which was approximately \$59,000 more than received in March 2018. Year-to-date cash receipts are 7.4% of budget.
- b) **Operating Disbursements:** Operating expenditures equated to \$915,351 which was \$90,770 more than March 2018. This is due to timing of payments and receipt of revenues.
- c) **CIRF:** Disbursements totaled \$174,418. This relates to culvert replacement and landslides.

- d) **Water Works Receipts:** Water usage receipts were \$186,705 which was approximately \$56,000 more than March 2018 receipts.
- e) **Water Works Disbursements:** Total operating disbursements of \$490,925 were approximately \$87,000 more than March 2018. This is due to a change in Metropolitan Sewer District's (MSD) billing process in 2018.
- f) **Water Works CIRF:** Total expenditures equated to \$4,887.
- g) **Long Term Debt:** There was no activity.
- h) **Cash and Investments:** Total month-end cash and investments were \$25,740,503 compared to \$26,160,355 in February 2019 and \$29,699,966 in March 2018. Month to month and year to year changes are due to routine operations and changes in federal tax laws in December 2017.
- i) **Rowe Funds:** The market value as of March 31st was \$3,872,547. The unrecognized gain was \$882,990. Total monthly operating receipts, including dividends, were \$15,624 with monthly operating expenses totaling \$13,345 and investment sale net gain of \$6,166.
- j) **Green Areas Funds:** The market value as of March 31st was \$2,917,594. The unrecognized gain was \$1,560,848. Total monthly earnings equated to \$12,955 with monthly expenses totaling \$0.

The financial statements for March 2019 had previously been distributed to each Council member. There being no exceptions noted, the financial statements were accepted as issued.

Mayor Kuenning reported that staff distributed information regarding HB62 which was signed by Governor DeWine this month. They agreed to a 10.5¢ increase in the statewide gas tax. This change in the gas tax provides an increase in local gas tax revenue distribution to the Village of approximately \$158,000 starting with July 2019. Currently, the Village receives approximately \$254,000. The new gas tax allows for the Village to receive approximately \$412,000 per year.

Mayor Kuenning reported that the Finance committee convened into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing property sale and/or acquisition.

LAW COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Armstrong directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Law Committee*". He reported that the Law committee met on April 11, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Armstrong reported that the Law committee entered into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the March legal activity report that includes discussions on property sale and/or acquisition and conferencing with the Village attorney concerning disputes that are subject of pending or imminent court action.

Council member Armstrong reported that staff provided an update on the Law committee's recommendation to have Grand Valley's five wells tested to obtain updated results. He said that after receiving a proposal from the company who previously performed the well monitoring in 2002, staff met with them at Grand Valley to evaluate the terrain. It was determined that two wells were underwater, one well needed repairs and two wells were not accessible due to the high water. He said that it was determined that the testing will take place later in the year to allow the water to recede and repairs to be made prior to the testing.

Council member Armstrong reported that the Law committee reviewed the Ordinance to approve the plat of Shawnee Brook Farm Subdivision and accepting the dedication of Given Road and they recommend a second reading of the Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PLAT OF SHAWNEE BROOK FARM SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 281, PAGE 67 OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO RECORDERS OFFICE, AND ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF GIVEN ROAD, PARCEL ID NO. 529-0030-0047 was presented and read for the second reading.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Cowan directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Buildings and Grounds Committee*". She reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee met on April 16, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Cowan reported that Mr. Adkins presented to the Buildings and Grounds committee the departmental activity report, a copy of the report is included in the Council packet.

Council member Cowan reported that Mr. West and Mrs. Wade-Dorman distributed to the Buildings and Grounds committee members the project management report, a copy of the report is included in the Council packet. She highlighted that the lakes were stocked with 500 pounds of Gold Shiner Minnows.

Council member Cowan reported that the Rowe Arboretum's annual plant sale will be held on April 26th for the members and April 27th for the general public.

Council member Cowan reported that the 2019 kickoff campaign article for *Reforest the Hill* program will be available in the upcoming Bulletin. The 2018 program had 87 trees donated while the 2017 program had 76 trees donated. She said that due to the program's success over the past two years, staff is evaluating contracting out the tree planting to maintain an efficient timeline as donations increase.

Council member Cowan reported that staff provided the Buildings and Grounds committee with an update on the committee's recommendation to have Grand Valley's five wells tested as previously reported in the meeting by Council member Armstrong.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member Krehbiel directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Public Works Committee*". He reported that the Public Works committee met on April 16, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member Krehbiel reported that Mr. Adkins presented to the Public Works committee the departmental activity report, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. The extremely heavy rains caused crews to have to repair drainage ways and road damage on many streets throughout the Village in addition to removing landslide debris on Loveland-Madeira Road.

Council member Krehbiel reported that Mrs. Wade-Dorman distributed to the Public Works committee members the project management report, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. Council member Krehbiel presented the following summary of upcoming infrastructure projects:

- a) **North Branch Sycamore Creek Restoration Weil Road:** Contractor has completed all repairs and final restoration. The stream is recovering quickly from all the work and is now an improved habitat for wildlife.
- b) **Blome Road/Spooky Hollow Culvert:** The removal and replacement of the culvert under Spooky Hollow Road is complete. Crews are backfilling around the new culvert and preparing to replace the water main.
- c) **Remington Road (SR126) Culvert Replacement:** The Village is still waiting to receive the OPWC Project Agreement as construction cannot start until it has been signed. Staff has acquired the needed temporary and permanent easements from Greenacres. Construction is anticipated to begin in July and last 6-8 weeks.
- d) **Shawnee Run Road Landslide:** ODOT has completed review of the design drawings. The Village will send out letters to adjacent property owners about upcoming road closure and project comments. Bids will go out in July with construction commencing in October.
- e) **Various landslide projects (Muchmore, Hopewell, Loveland-Madeira, Demar Roads):** Final designs have been received for the four anticipated landslide projects. The Hopewell and Loveland-Madeira landslide bid openings will occur this month. The Muchmore Road and Demar Road landslides are being prepared for bid.
- f) **Keller Road Bridge:** Hamilton County has asked to move up the project schedule. Rather than begin in August, the County would like to begin in late June/early July and will require an approximate 10 week road closure.
- g) **Bike Path Bridge (over Shawnee Run Road):** ODOT has contacted staff to schedule a five day closure of Shawnee Run Road at State Route 126 to complete concrete repairs on the bridge. ODOT has agreed to coordinate this work when Shawnee Run is closed for landslide repairs.
- h) **Blome Road Bridge:** Hamilton County completed repair on the recently damaged deck. Upon the completion of the preliminary survey, staff will hold a pre-design meeting with the County and its engineers. The project remains planned for 2020.
- i) **2019 Street Resurfacing Program:** The Village received three bids ranging from \$1,084,819 to \$1,170,956. This program includes full depth asphalt repair, grinding, concrete curve replacement, pavement markings and culvert repairs. The project may begin prior to July 4th which is different than in previous years.
- j) **Spooky Hollow Gutter Replacement:** This project will remove and replace the existing asphalt gutter. The Village received five bids ranging from \$56,595 to \$110,000.

Council member Krehbiel reported that the Public Works committee reviewed an Ordinance authorizing an agreement between the Village and Hamilton County for the replacement of Keller Road Bridge. He said that after discussion, the Public Works committee recommends passage, on an emergency basis, in order to assist the project in moving forward with

a June/July construction timeframe. He explained that the Village committed to pay for 50% of the construction costs which is not anticipated to exceed \$500,000. In addition to 50% of the construction costs, Hamilton County has paid for 100% of the engineering.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF INDIAN HILL AND THE BOARD OF HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN SUBSTANTIAL FORMAT, FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE KELLER ROAD BRIDGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was presented and read.

Upon motion by Council member Krehbiel, seconded by Council member Thayer, the rules were suspended for the following Ordinance by unanimous roll call vote.

Upon motion by Council member Krehbiel, seconded by Council member Thayer, the Ordinance was passed by unanimous roll call vote. Mayor Kuenning declared Ordinance **04-19** enacted.

WATER WORKS REPORT: Mayor Kuenning directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Water Works and Deregulation Committee*". He reported that the Water Works committee met on April 16, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Mayor Kuenning reported that Mr. Adkins presented the departmental activity report, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. Staff repaired eight main breaks totaling 21 for this year. Staff began the private fire hydrant flushing in coordination with the Joint Fire District and repaired five fire hydrants. Plant Operators responded to 275 service calls. The 2018 Water Quality report was mailed to all residents.

Mayor Kuenning reported that Mrs. Wade-Dorman distributed the project management report, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. He reported the following:

- a) **Shillito water main replacement:** A pre-construction meeting occurred, and the contract documents are being finalized. The project is replacing a 6" main with an 8" main. Construction commencement is expected in early May and will last approximately 4 months.
- b) **Water treatment plant brine storage tank replacement:** A meeting with the engineer this month will include review of the design drawings for final comments. Construction commencement is anticipated to begin late summer/early fall.

Mayor Kuenning reported that the Water Works committee discussed the financial effects of a potential 15% increase on the quarterly average bills of the top 10 water users. All top 10 users have been notified of the increase that is being considered and the Village has received no comments from them.

Mayor Kuenning reported that staff met with Madeira representatives this month to assist Madeira in its analysis of a possible water transition from Indian Hill service to Greater Cincinnati Water Works.

Mayor Kuenning reported that staff provided the Water Works committee with an update on the water distribution for the new Emery development in the northern part of the Village. The development encompasses both Indian Hill and Greater Cincinnati Water Works territory. In an effort to reduce confusion and create a more efficient water system, Greater Cincinnati Water Works has verbally agreed to allow Indian Hill to service all 42 homes planned within the development. Staff continues to work through details of the Village's current agreement with the City of Cincinnati to formalize these discussions.

Mayor Kuenning said that the Water Works committee recommends a second reading of the Ordinance to increase the water rates by 15% beginning July 1, 2019.

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER SUPPLIED TO CUSTOMERS BY AMENDING SECTION 51.55 RATES OF THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF INDIAN HILL, OHIO CODE OF ORDINANCES was presented and read for the second reading.

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT: Council member McGraw directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Safety Committee*". He reported that the Safety committee met on April 11, 2019 to review several items in advance of the Council meeting.

Council member McGraw reported that Chief Ashbrock provided the Fire/EMS report subsequent to the meeting, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. Council member McGraw reported that Chief Ashbrock said that the department continues to discuss administrative protocol for service calls with the nursing staff at Madeira Manor as they have increased significantly. Chief Ashbrock also provided an update on the recent fire on Blome Road caused by floors being refinished.

Council member McGraw reported that Chief Ashbrock informed the Safety committee that three part-time positions have been filled. The District continues to work on filling the vacant full time position with a final offer anticipated by the end of the month.

Council member McGraw reported that Colonel Schlie presented the Rangers report, a copy of which is included in the Council packet. Over the past month, cases have involved general information, ID theft, auto theft and dog cases. They also discussed a significant theft case that Captain Makin and Lt. Perdue have been working on which has resulted in thirty indictments. He said that Colonel Schlie reminded the Safety committee that the second annual hockey tournament will take place May 2nd through May 4th at the Indian Hill Winter Club. One highlight is the reunion of 17 former Cincinnati Cyclone players who will compete against a combined Fire/Police team. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit a Hamilton County patrolman's child suffering from a brain tumor.

Council member McGraw reported that of the eleven candidate interviews for the two open Patrolman positions, one candidate was elevated to the background processing portion of the process and has received very favorable results. A contingent offer letter is being prepared with an anticipated start day in May. Three other candidates currently are taking part in the background process for the second open position.

Council member McGraw reported that seven current Patrolmen applied for the permanent detective position. Testing will take place over the next month.

Council member McGraw reported that the Safety committee discussed a resident's concerns about truck traffic on Walton Creek, Varner and Drake. This issue has been addressed in the past with the Rangers evaluating the trucks which drive in this area and speed signs. In the last evaluation, the Rangers found only one truck passing through that did not have a destination within the Village. Due to the spring season, landscaping trailers and construction trucks have increased as residents hire from several different contractors. Colonel Schlie indicated he would contact the resident as he has spoken with her before on this same issue. Staff will evaluate putting up speed signs again as well as doing another evaluation of vehicle destinations.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Council member Thayer directed Council's attention to a memo titled, "*Planning Commission*". He reported that the Planning Commission met on April 16, 2019.

Council member Thayer reported that the Planning Commission conditionally approved a concept plan submitted by Graeme Daley for the reconfiguration of Part Lot 2 Stevens Estate subdivision located at 5940 Towhee Lane. The proposal will reconfigure three existing parcels, which total 4.61 acres, into two single family building lots. The proposal includes a 1.62 acre Green Area parcel.

Council member Thayer reported that the Planning Commission will meet on May 21, 2019 to consider an application for variance from Linda and Tony Shipley, 7755 Surreyhill Lane to permit construction of a small covered front portico addition attached to the front of the home and a roof extension to the rear of the home. The applicant is requesting a variance to the front and rear yard setbacks.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Minneci reported the following dates and activities occurring between April and December:

- a) April 27, 2019 – Grand Valley Annual Fishing Tournament – 7:00 am – 12:00 pm
- b) April 26-27, 2019 Annual Plant Sale – Rowe Arboretum
- c) May 1, 2019 – Indian Hill High School Annual Water Quality Report presented at the Green Area Advisory committee meeting – Council Chambers – 5:30 pm
- d) May 2, 2019 – National Day of Prayer celebration with City of Madeira – Stephan Park 7:30 am
- e) August 26, 2019 Strategic Planning/Preliminary Council Goals discussion during regular Council meeting – 6:30 pm

- f) September 5, 2019 – Community Forum/Coyote Presentation – Livingston Lodge – 6:00 pm
- g) December 2, 2019 – Council Organizational meeting – 7:30 am

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Kuenning, Mayor

ATTEST:

Paul C. Riordan, Clerk