

VILLAGE OF HEBRON

COMBINED COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2023

6:00 pm

This meeting was held both remotely and in person.

Call to Order

Interim Village Administrator/Fiscal Officer Deborah Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Morgan asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers in attendance: Council President Dr. Valerie Mockus, Councilmembers Stacy Stoner, Paige Seymour, Kenney Nauer, Randy Wolf, and Annelle Porter.

Others in attendance: Mayor James Layton, Interim Village Administrator/Fiscal Officer Deborah Morgan, Public Works Superintendent Cliff Ward Jr., Clerk of Council/Administrative Assistant Christina Furbee.

Others in attendance remotely: Jung-Han Chen

Visitors: Brandon Salyer, Ajay Barber, Linda Nicodemus, Andrea Chapman, Jeff Johnstone, Jessica Cable, Clifford Mason, Rose Mason, Mark Jones, Michael Newman, Jana Newman, Atrina Good, Jeff Good.

Visitor Comments

None

Pending Legislation

Mrs. Morgan read the titles of all pending legislation.

ORDINANCE 21-23- AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION FOR AN EXPEDITED TYPE II ANNEXATION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY INTO THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, OHIO FROM UNION TOWNSHIP, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FILED BY CONNIE KLEMA, AGENT FOR PETITIONER-**Third Reading**

ORDINANCE 22-23- AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY SURPLUS, NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR USE, AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY VIA INTERNET AUCTION (PER ORC. §721.15(A))-**Third Reading**

RESOLUTION 23-10- A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR-**Second Reading**

ORDINANCE 23-23- AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON- **Second Reading**

ORDINANCE 24-23- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH V3 COMPANIES LTD, WITHOUT ADVERTISING, FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, SPECIFICALLY, THE ROADWAY AND STORM WATER COLLECTION SYSTEM, WATER RECLAMATION UTILITY, AND WATER UTILITY ENGINEERING- **Second Reading**

ORDINANCE 25-23- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FISHEL, DOWNEY, ALBRECHT & RIEPENHOFF LLP, WITHOUT ADVERTISING, FOR CERTAIN LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, SPECIFICALLY FOR PLANNING & ZONING AND EMPLOYMENT MATTERS- **Second Reading**

ORDINANCE 26-23- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED CODE SECTION OF THE ZONING DISTRICT UNDER TITLE 3 CHAPTER 1137 OF THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON ZONING CODE-**First Reading**

Committees:

Parks, Recreation, Public Works Committee-(*Annelle Porter-Chair, Kenney Nauer, Dr. Valerie Mockus*)

Mrs. Morgan said the Village was awarded funding from a Community Development Block Grant for flood mitigation in the amount of \$471,000. She said this is the first time funds have been awarded in Licking County in 10 years. She said the Village's maximum cost share will be \$30,000 and two culverts, at Broadway and Sugar Streets, will be replaced with these funds.

Mrs. Porter complimented the flowers in the downtown area and said she hopes there will be more next year.

Parks Presentation

Brandon Salyer said he is the President of the Lakewood Youth Baseball Association. He provided a presentation to Council, beginning with an introduction of himself, his family, and the current Board of the LYBA. He discussed the mission, goal, and current state of the LYBA and said the LYBA is interested in partnering with Legends Sports Academy, who is willing to invest in improvements at Evans Park. He discussed the purpose of the partnership.

Mr. Salyer presented items needed at Evans Park, including dugouts, bleachers/seating, field improvements, repairs to structures, scoreboards, equipment, fencing, tarps, and possibly adding lights to the fields. He said his hope is to achieve the type of fields Licking Valley has at Legacy Park.

Mr. Salyer addressed what he assumes could be potential concerns, such as revenue and accounting, fairness and setting a precedent with other travel ball teams. He said there is always concern about travel ball leagues stealing players from recreational leagues, but it will continue so the best answer is to embrace it.

Mayor Layton asked if Legends is a for-profit league. Ajay Barber said Legends is a 5013C non-profit organization.

Mrs. Porter complimented Mr. Salyer and said the presentation was very informative. She said she did not hear anything about insurance. Mr. Salyer said insurance documentation has been provided to the Village of Hebron, listing the TJ Evans Foundation and the Village of Hebron as additional insured, as required.

Dr. Mockus asked how often overflow parking is required at Evans Park. Mr. Salyer said it has only been needed one time so far this year, on opening day; and it would be the same next year on opening day and tournament days. Dr. Mockus asked how often that overlaps with other sports at Evans Park. Mr. Salyer said the tournament is in late October, and football and soccer are done by then.

Mrs. Morgan said LYBA and Legends have been informed that the Evans Foundation will not allow collecting money for parking. Mr. Salyer said they would like to ask the Evans Foundation if they can charge for admission and concessions.

Mr. Nauer said in years past, there has been some trouble keeping up with mowing. Mr. Salyer said there are no issues at all now.

Dr. Mockus thanked Mr. Salyer for his presentation and said it is obvious a lot of work is being done for these kids. Mrs. Morgan said she appreciates them coming to Council.

This item will be discussed with the TJ Evans Foundation and added to a future Council Meeting agenda.

Stormwater Week

Linda Nicodemus of Licking County Soil and Water said October 1st -7th has been declared Ohio Stormwater Awareness Week. She said a draft copy of a resolution has been given to Council and they are asking that the Village of Hebron adopt a resolution declaring the first week of October as Stormwater Awareness Week. She said information will be put out on their website and can be provided to the Village to share as well. She said Licking County Soil and Water has staff that can come to the Village and talk about rain gardens if we would like.

Andrea Chapman said it was in the newspaper that the Muskingum Watershed reduced their rates. She asked if Mrs. Nicodemus knew why. Mrs. Nicodemus said they have a lot of recreational funds coming in.

Warrant Study

Mrs. Morgan said the Ohio Department of Transportation said a signal warrant analysis needed to be done to deal with a traffic light at 8th and Main Streets. She said the analysis was completed and sent to Councilmembers, and the study indicated the signal is not warranted. Based on this finding, the Village can remove the signal or make it flash and then inform ODOT of their choice. Dr. Mockus said when she was at that intersection yesterday, in five minutes time, she saw two cars run a red light and heard another speed up to get through a yellow light. Mrs. Porter said she does not feel comfortable removing the light because if it is needed in the future, it could take a long time to have it put up again, but she might be agreeable to setting it to flash. There was some discussion about options and the impact on the behavior of vehicles. Mrs. Seymour agreed the light may be needed in the future, so she does not feel comfortable removing the light until we know what will be needed there. Mrs. Stoner said a flashing light catches drivers' attention and removing the light will make them go faster, farther. Mr. Nauer said he recommends setting the light to flash for a year to see how it goes.

Mark Jones, 802 W. Main Street, said he shared a video on Facebook that shows a vehicle that spun sideways and left black marks in the middle of the road at 3:30am. He said he would like to have a police presence in that area to write tickets as he feels vehicles will just run the light.

Snow Fence

Mrs. Morgan said she received a call from Mr. Keith Baldwin who owns the car wash on S. High Street. She said Mr. Baldwin is asking the Village to consider putting up a snow fence to help with snow drifting across High Street, and to catch corn husks that blow across the street and fill the sewer drains. Mayor Layton said the Village put a fence up there a long time ago. Mr. Nauer said it did not seem to help with the drifting snow. Mr. Ward said a fence might help some with the corn husks. Mayor Layton suggested looking into the cost and see if it makes a difference. He suggested possibly doing the same near the wetlands as well. Mrs. Morgan said she will get with Mr. Ward to discuss it and follow up with Mr. Baldwin.

Finance - (Dr. Valerie Mockus-Chair, Randy Wolf, Stacy Stoner)

Mrs. Morgan said she will be scheduling a Finance Committee Meeting to go over the 2024 budget.

Economic Development-(Stacy Stoner-Chair, Randy Wolf, Paige Seymour)

Framework

Dr. Mockus said Framework is a topic Mayor Layton has mentioned multiple times. She said at least three Council members participated in the sessions and have copies of the booklet they presented. She said while the resolution is binding, the details of their recommendations are not binding. Dr. Mockus said she is happy to answer any questions anyone may have. Mayor Layton said he has a briefing document as well, and a quarterly meeting will be held. He said fifteen communities were involved and made suggestions, creating a good tool in addition to the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Wolf said all of the information is available online. He said the rest of the county that is

not involved in Framework has been invited to a meeting tomorrow night to see what is going on. Mrs. Chapman said she went online and found it was easy to print the information.

Police Committee-(*Paige Seymour-Chair, Annelle Porter, Dr. Valerie Mockus*)

Golf Carts/Side-by-Sides

Mrs. Seymour said discussions have been held about golf carts and side-by-sides, and the Village's attorneys have provided research and a draft ordinance. Dr. Mockus said she took the liberty to look at a resident's side-by-side to see the safety features on it. She said the resident brought it to the Municipal Building on a trailer, for all who are interested in looking at it. She said a side-by-side is significantly different from a golf cart, as it has doors, a roll bar, etc. She said if the Village is seriously entertaining allowing golf carts, we should also seriously entertain allowing side-by-sides as well. She said Village staff needs to have the ability to use side-by-sides for work purposes as well. Mr. Wolf said insurance needs to be a requirement for both types of vehicles. Mayor Layton said insurance would be part of the required inspection. There was some discussion about the inspection process. Dr. Mockus said the proposed legislation requires a valid drivers license and proof of financial responsibility.

Jessica Cable said farmers register their side-by-sides as an agricultural vehicle and it must be qualified through the state, but they would not be able to produce a license plate. Dr. Mockus said the proposed ordinance does require a rear license plate with light to make it visible, but maybe we can create an agricultural exception. Ms. Cable said the registration, including the purpose of use, can be verified through the state and the Village can make a registration form as well. There was discussion about areas where the vehicles would be able to be driven.

Mrs. Morgan said the proposed legislation is a first draft. She asked Councilmembers to send her an email with their suggestions to send to the Village Solicitor, and said we can explore if separate ordinances would be appropriate for golf carts and side-by-sides.

Mrs. Cable suggested the Village research other areas that allow side-by-sides and see how it's working. Mrs. Chapman said the Village can place restrictions on speed for these vehicles even if the posted speed limit is higher. Mrs. Cable said she would be concerned about hindering traffic flow if speed restrictions were put in place. Councilmembers thanked the residents for giving their input and information.

Water, Wastewater Committee -(*Kenney Nauer-Chair, Annelle Porter, Paige Seymour*)

None

Personnel, Annexation, Insurance Committee-(*Randy Wolf-Chair, Stacy Stoner, Kenney Nauer*)

Mrs. Morgan said the Village will begin working on employee health care insurance soon.

Other Items not listed

Food Trucks

Mr. Ward provided information about local food trucks that are interested in becoming vendors in the Village. He proposed allowing one Food Truck a week to sit at the back of the downtown greenspace on Wednesdays from 10-11, or even through dinner time. He said he feels this opens up the community and possible future food events for Hebron. Mr. Ward said he reached out to various Food Truck vendors to see if there was any interest, as he feels the Village needs more food options. Dr. Mockus said she is concerned about visibility if they set up at the back of the greenspace, but if they are right on High Street, everyone will see them. Mrs. Morgan said the Police Department would need to be consulted if they were to set up on a public street. Mr. Nauer suggested possibly setting up on Fitch Bros. Way. Dr. Mockus said they would need to make enough money to cover all expenses. She asked if we could have them track their sales to see the trend. Mrs. Morgan said allowing the Food Trucks to set up on Village property would be a way to welcome them, but it would need to be Council's decision. Mrs. Stoner thanked Mr. Ward for working on this. Mrs. Porter expressed concern about parking on public property, keeping the trash cleaned up, and said it is important that the community not forget the existing established facilities. Dr. Mockus said the

Village could consider making a Food Truck permit process mandatory and vendors can be told if they come and make messes, they won't be invited back. Dr. Mockus said if we can get people to come into the Village of Hebron to eat instead of eating in other areas, they may be inclined to look further into what the Village has to offer. This item will be placed on the next Council Meeting agenda.

Trick or Treat

Mrs. Furbee said she received the remaining information from surrounding areas and they all plan to hold their Trick-or-Treat events on October 26th. She said most also indicated they have established a rule to hold their event on the Thursday before Halloween, unless Halloween falls on a Thursday. She asked if Council wishes to do the same. Dr. Mockus said she is thankful for Mrs. McCoy's suggestion at the Combined Council Committees Meeting. She said maybe there is something the Village can do to help people be mindful of the safety of the children during the event. This item will be placed on the next Council Meeting agenda.

Open Discussion

Mr. Wolf asked what became of the proposed flock cameras. Mayor Layton said the state finally permitted them and they are up and running. He said there is one at every entrance to the Village. Mr. Wolf said other areas have found them to be very useful.

Visitor Comments

None

Adjourn

Mrs. Seymour moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm, seconded by Mrs. Stoner. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

_____(on file)_____
Mayor James Layton

Attest:

_____(on file)_____
Deborah Morgan, Village Fiscal Officer