

**VILLAGE OF HEBRON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 26, 2022
6:00 PM**

This meeting was held both remotely and in person.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Layton called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Layton asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for Vietnam veterans and the missing in action. He said at this time in 1973, he was in An Son, Vietnam waiting to hear if a cease fire was going to be declared.

ROLL CALL

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

Others in attendance: Mayor James Layton, Village Administrator John Trujillo, Village Fiscal Officer Deborah Morgan, Public Works Superintendent Cliff Ward, Village Solicitor Wesley K. Untied, and Clerk of Council/Administrative Assistant Christina Furbee.

Visitors: Susanne Sacchetti

NOTICE: MEETING DOCUMENTATION

Mayor Layton said the minutes for this meeting are being recorded and a written summary will be available by request at a later date.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT-Public Works

Public Works Superintendent Cliff Ward said the Public Works Department has been busy tree trimming at the parks and around town, cleaning a ditch to help with flooding, pulling up posts along Canal Road and grills at Evans Park. He said in mid-December, they set and installed a radar sign for the Hebron Police Department and they will be installing a second sign on S. High Street and Chestnut St.

Mr. Ward said signage with the new Hebron logo has been placed at the three main entrances to the Village, thanks to a Welcome Fund bequeathed to the Village by former Councilmember Pam DeVaul. He said a sign at the Water Reclamation Facility was also replaced and new signs have been ordered for both Canal and Evans Parks.

Mr. Ward said the Village is working on getting quotes for concrete to stabilize the benches at the football field at Evans Park Will and will discuss crack issues in the walking path with Xtreme Asphalt.

He said a new pull off/road for the east end lift station at the Water Reclamation Facility has been created, and Project Construction Company completed an office remodel for Community Development Coordinator Assistant Bonnie Miller.

Mr. Ward said Pulte Homes passed the mandrel test on stormwater lines in Section 4, Phases 1 & 2 in Lake Forest.

Christmas decorations were put up throughout the Village on December 3rd and taken down on January 3rd.

Public Works equipment and vehicles have been serviced, and so far this snow season, the Village has used 94 tons of salt.

Mrs. Porter said the walking paths at Evans Park are clear and look good. Mayor Layton said park rules signs will be posted after the Annual Park Users Meeting on February 8th.

Mr. Trujillo congratulated Mr. Ward for passing five licensing tests for pesticide and herbicide in one day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 10, 2021 Council Meeting

Councilmember Porter moved to approve the November 10, 2021 Council Meeting minutes as presented with suggested updates, second by Council President Mockus. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor except Councilmembers Stoner, Seymour and Nauer who abstained. These minutes cannot be approved, as there are not enough affirmative votes (previous Councilmember Andrea Chapman was present at the meeting but is no longer on Council). Village Solicitor Wes Untied instructed a note be attached to the minutes when they are filed.

November 17, 2021 Combined Council Committees Meeting

Councilmember Stoner moved to approve the November 17, 2021 Combined Council Committees Meeting minutes as presented, second by Dr. Mockus. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor except Mrs. Porter and Mr. Nauer who abstained.

December 15, 2021 Council Meeting

Dr. Mockus moved to approve the December 15, 2021 Council Meeting minutes as presented, second by Mrs. Stoner. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor except Mrs. Seymour and Mr. Nauer who abstained.

January 12, 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting and Council Meeting Minutes

Dr. Mockus moved to approve the January 12, 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting minutes and the January 12, 2022 Council Meeting minutes as presented, second by Mrs. Stoner. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Susanne Sacchetti, Director of the Licking County Library, said she is aware that the Library lease is on the agenda tonight, and she is here to answer any questions Council may have.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 01-22- AN ORDINANCE CREATING AN ADDITIONAL PAID PERSONAL DAY FOR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES-Second Reading

Mayor Layton said this legislation is to establish a floating holiday for Village employees, brought about by the new Federal Juneteenth holiday.

RESOLUTION 22-01- A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING DELINQUENT PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BILLS TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR FOR COLLECTION-First Reading

Mrs. Porter asked how many properties are being certified to the Auditor. Mrs. Furbee said just one property at this time. Dr. Mockus asked if she should abstain from voting if a property in question is located adjacent to her property. Mr. Untied said Dr. Mockus would not need to abstain from voting for that reason.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

Library Lease

Mr. Trujillo said the proposed library lease has been distributed to Council. He said it is a standard lease, and it has been reviewed and approved by the Village Solicitor.

Mrs. Seymour moved to approve renewing a lease agreement with the Licking County Library as presented, second by Mrs. Porter. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

Humane Society MOU

Mayor Layton said the Licking County Humane Society is proposing an additional \$25/month for services provided to the Village. Mr. Trujillo said the Village has paid the same cost for a long time.

Mrs. Porter moved to approve the Licking County Humane Society Memorandum of Understanding at an additional cost of \$25/month, second by Mrs. Seymour. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

Purchase of Backhoe

Mr. Ward passed out information about a backhoe the Village wants to purchase. Mr. Trujillo said the quote is for state bid pricing through SouthEastern Equipment. He said an old backhoe can be traded in at a value of \$27,000, so the Purchase Order for the new backhoe would be for \$80,927.58. He noted the auction value for the old backhoe is \$29,000.

Mrs. Porter thought the Village previously purchased a backhoe. Mr. Trujillo said the purchase was for a mini excavator. This is a backhoe that all three departments will be able to use. Mrs. Porter asked why not go straight to State Bid instead of one specific company. Mayor Layton said companies submit pricing to the state and the state selects the company with the best bid. Mr. Trujillo said the company quote is through state bid and they also work with the Village because we are local. Mrs. Porter asked if there are no other brands to consider as well. Mr. Ward said other companies won't give as much for trade in. He said he called John Deere and they said their technician will do a 2-hour walkthrough to look over the current backhoe and we will not get as much trade in value. He said the Village would have to put money in for upkeep on the existing equipment to meet their standards for the trade in value, as the backhoe is 18 years old. Mrs. Stoner asked what the normal life expectancy of this type of equipment is. Mr. Ward said the equipment should probably provide about 3,000 hours. Mr. Moore said the Village has always received good service and representation with SouthEastern Equipment. Mr. Ward said the warranty through SouthEastern Equipment is for 5 years and covers mechanicals- parts and labor. He said if the purchase is made after the quote expires on March 31st, the cost will go up by at least 5%. Mr. Ward said he was told there is a backhoe available now, but if we don't place the order within the next couple weeks, we will not be able to get one until the end of 2023.

Mr. Moore moved to authorize the expense to purchase of a Case 580SN Backhoe from SouthEastern Equipment, at a purchase price after trade in of \$80,927.58, second by Mr. Nauer. Dr. Mockus said she is concerned that the Village does not have any other documented bid from another organization. Mr. Trujillo said state bid takes care of that process for us. Dr. Mockus said she is also concerned about the short amount of time in which Council has to make a decision and she does not feel the residents would be happy about it. Mrs. Porter said the residents were not aware this was an item for discussion until the agenda came out. Mayor Layton said it was in the Public Works Department budget. Mr. Trujillo said the previous Public Works Superintendent talked about the condition of the backhoe and the need for replacement in his report as well. Mrs. Porter said without more information about the state bid process, or more bid documentation, Council is encouraged to vote on one vendor. She said she is concerned that there may be a price difference with another company that the Village did not uncover. Mr. Trujillo said the state went through the process to get the lowest price for the equipment so we know we are getting the lowest price. Mrs. Seymour said she agrees it would be nice to see more bid documents, but if the Village is happy with the equipment and the price, and the price will increase if we don't purchase the equipment in time, and we may also avoid having to put money into old equipment that we don't need to. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Moore, Mr. Nauer, and Mrs. Seymour voted yes. Dr. Mockus, Mrs. Stoner, and Mrs. Porter voted no. Mayor Layton broke the tie vote with a vote of yes. The motion passed.

Dr. Mockus said it would be helpful in the future if Council had more understanding of the state bid process. Mayor Layton said his approach is always to get at least two bids, but the state has already done that through the state bid process for almost any item. Dr. Mockus said it may be better to approach local dealers who may be willing to offer a better price. Dr. Mockus said these are big ticket items and she would like to see at least a second bid. There was some discussion about the state bid process versus approaching local companies. Mr. Trujillo said if a dealer offers an item for less than the state bid price, it would be illegal, as it goes against the Ohio Revised Code. Mayor Layton said for large purchases, the Village will try to get retail prices for comparison with the state bid.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Trujillo said his report was submitted to Councilmembers. He noted the amount of salt used so far this year was off in his report. He said the actual amount of salt used so far is 94 tons.

Mr. Trujillo said the Annual Park Users Meeting is scheduled for February 8th if any Council Members would like to attend.

Mr. Trujillo said Mrs. Porter brought in a letter that was mailed to her home. He said he spoke to AlphaLink, who said the letter is part of a mail phishing scam to get you to go to the link. Mr. Trujillo advised the letter be thrown away.

Mr. Trujillo said inspections at the Lake Forest Subdivision, sections 3 & 4, witnessed a couple failures when testing the water line. He said the contractor is working to dig up the pipe to fix it. He added they also couldn't pass mandrel testing on a sewer pipe in one section, and a manhole failed pressure testing. Mr. Trujillo said these issues will be fixed before the Village will allow them to continue to build.

Mrs. Porter asked what causes constriction on the line. Mr. Trujillo said on backfill, the pipe would start pushing out and deforming, which constricts the flow.

COUNCILMEMBER'S REPORTS

Dr. Mockus said Hebron Christian Church is considering holding a farmers market on their property. She asked if this raises any concerns. Mayor Layton said he will check with the Community Development Coordinator. Mrs. Porter noted that in prior years, a similar effort was made by someone else, but she didn't feel it was very well received.

Dr. Mockus said the Church held a Kids Fun Fest last year, and they want to do it again this year. She said she wanted to make sure there were no issues last year. No one expressed any issues with the event.

Dr. Mockus asked about an engineering expense for Hebron 208 facility planning. Mr. Trujillo said the 208 plan is a development plan for sewer, and it covers what the Village is doing for wastewater treatments and collections of wastewater. He said this is something that needs to be done every two years as the Village changes.

Dr. Mockus said the flags at Evans Park in the memorial space are starting to look rough. Mayor Layton said the legion just ordered new flags. Mr. Nauer said the flags are typically changed out 2-3 times a year. Mayor Layton said he talked to Mr. Ward to see if his basketball group may want to go around and sell flags to homes that have tattered flags.

Mr. Moore said the Fire District meeting is tomorrow at 5pm. He said there are two new members on the Board. Mayor Layton said Fire District funding is the most important issue the Village is facing right now. He said he checked with Fiscal Officer Morgan and she confirmed one levy goes off in 2024. She has a call in to Brad Mercer at the Licking County Auditor's Office to see when the other levy goes off.

Mrs. Stoner asked if she could receive an updated contact list for the Village. Councilmembers confirmed they received the list last week. Mrs. Furbie said she will resend it.

Mrs. Stoner said she had issues printing a spreadsheet for Mr. Nauer. Mr. Trujillo said if she sends the spreadsheet to him, he will try to reformat it for printing.

Mrs. Porter asked about a number of small flags of different colors in the ground along US 40. Mr. Nauer said the flags are to mark various utility lines for fiber optic lines being laid. Mrs. Porter asked if it is possible to be notified when this is happening, maybe when a Right-of-Way permit is granted.

Mrs. Porter said she would like to note that the Hebron Library staff is very helpful with searching for things whenever she is in there.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Layton said he had a meeting with the Licking County Commissioners to talk about funds the Village applied for. He said the Village needs to get them more information. Mrs. Morgan said a change was made in the final rule for the ARP funds, and the most impactful change is if the award is under \$10 Million, the Village will be able to use the entire amount of the award for any purpose in the village, with a few exceptions. Mayor Layton said the County is reviewing information and applications. He said the Commissioners suggested we go to them to have them pay a portion of the bill. Mayor Layton said he will let Council know when the Village meets with them. He said the Commissioners want to discuss options for water lines east of the Village.

Mayor Layton said a water rate study is being conducted.

Mayor Layton said the Licking County Groundhog breakfast is this Friday. He said he has tickets for the event if anyone is interested in attending.

Mayor Layton said the Buckeye Lake Winterfest is Saturday morning at 6am.

REVIEW OF EXPENSES

Councilmembers acknowledged review of the list of expenditures. There were no questions or concerns about the expenses.

VISITOR COMMENTS

None

MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE

February 7, 2022-6:30pm, Public Hearing/Planning & Zoning Meeting, Council Chambers

February 8, 2022-6pm, Park Users Meeting, Council Chambers

February 9, 2022-6pm, Council Meeting, Council Chambers

February 16, 2022-6pm, Combined Council Committees Meeting, Council Chambers

February 21, 2022-CLOSED for Presidents' Day

February 22, 2022-6pm, South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Meeting, Council Chambers

February 23, 2022-6pm, Council Meeting, Council Chambers

ADJOURN

Mrs. Porter moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14pm, second by Mr. Moore. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

_____(on file)_____
Valerie Mockus, Council President

Attest:

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