

## ZOAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING September 17, 2019

The Zoar Village regular council meeting was called to order by Mayor Scott Gordon at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call	David Irwin	Present	Judy Meiser	Present
	Paul Worley	Present	Gayle Potelicki	Present
	Hans Fischer	Present	Joe Potelicki	Present

Motion to approve the 8/13/19 regular meeting minutes as received and amended was made by Gayle and seconded by Judy. Roll call: All yes.

The following bills were presented for signature to be paid in September 2019.

Scott Gordon	150.00	Sept Mayor salary
Patricia Smith	420.00	Sept Clerk
OPERS	100.80	Sept Clerk
AEP	260.88	Aug Street Lighting
Meiser's Mowing Service	625.00	Sept Contract Final
Village of Bolivar	662.50	August Police
FIA Card Services	119.99	Stamps/APC
Tri State Tree	1,550.00	Tree Removal
Auditor of State	255.00	UAN Fees
Department of Taxation	8.40	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr State Taxes
Doug Frautschy	400.00	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr Solicitor
Municipal Signs	185.00	Street signs
Haueter Landscaping	250.00	Burial
Harold Raines	325.00	Burial x2
ZVFD	4,949.03	Fire Levy 3MIL
BVFD	1,649.67	EMS 1MIL

Motion to acknowledge receipt of financial statements and pay the monthly bills for September was made by Paul and seconded by Joe. Roll Call: All yes with Judy abstaining on the Meiser's Mowing vouchers.

### Public Speaks:

Joe Cline said the issue of Village records was discussed at the last Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission would like council to consider the possibility of taking all archived Village records and scanning them onto the cloud for immediate access to anyone. Currently some Planning Commission records are stored at the Mayor's home due to the dampness at Village Hall.

Mark and Gay Welty presented a letter from Dick Gooding addressing the large buckeye tree in Gus Ruetenik's yard. They also handed out an excerpt concerning tree liability from the Attorney General's office. Mark and Gay both said safety is of the highest concern and they feel this tree could come down on their home or any pedestrian walking in the alley at any time. They have been working with the Village council and the homeowner for the past five years to get this remedied to no avail. They requested council take some action to help resolve the safety hazard. Patty said the Village was informed at the last council meeting that Gus Ruetenik had hired Dakota Tree Service to remove the tree. Judy confirmed this in a discussion she had with Gus's daughter. Scott will notify ZCA to close the alley to traffic during the Civil War Event. Gay said that is fine but her family must use the alley and she feels it is unsafe. After a discussion, council agreed that Scott should contact Dakota Tree Service and get a date on the removal.

**Fiscal:**

Submitted budgets to the Auditor's office. Currently working on Temporary Appropriations. Request by ordinance that \$147.22 be re-allocated within the Street Budget to pay for the one-way traffic signs. Introduced Public Defender's contract for a first reading.

**Street Committee:**

David received the one-way alley signs, painted the posts, and contacted oops for clearance. The signs will be installed soon.

Scott and David cleaned several truck-loads of debris up along Park and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets. The debris was taken to the Township collection site.

Judy said she has asked several times to get the culvert cleaned out on her street. She said the water backs up and is deteriorating her concrete. David mentioned he needs the fire department to blow it out. Chuck commented the hose is hard to handle and it would take more than one person to do. David commented he may need to talk with Bolivar fire to get this blown out.

**Safety Committee:**

See discussion in Public Speaks area.

Scott identified the following as safety hazards in the Village and had Tri State Tree Service in to take care of the concerns prior to the Civil War Event. He said the large hemlock tree across from the Schoolhouse has been topped and all dead limbs have been removed. Gayle commented the tree should have been taken down. Tree limbs hanging across the lower end of East Street and dead limbs on a willow tree at the intersection of East and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street were removed.

Council discussed the problem with the tree contracted for removal through Lyn Urfer Tree Service in the back of the cemetery off Hess Mill. After discovering the ground was saturated, Lyn Urfer said he cannot get equipment in to remove the tree. Both Scott and David are investigating to see how the tree can be removed. David said we may have to wait until the ground is frozen to enter the area and remove the tree. Judy said she would not waste time or Village money on this as it is very close to the USACE flood easement. Judy said she would like a guarantee from the USACE that it is ok to remove this tree. Gayle suggested Scott contact the USACE and ask their opinion on this.

Hans asked that for every tree taken down in the Village that the Village fund planting a tree replacement.

**Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission:**

None.

**Cemetery Board:**

None.

**Solicitor Report:****Mayor's Notes:**

The archaeological dig work is complete and a final report will be issued soon.

The USACE issued their report on the structural vibration analysis and Scott provided comment back. He said the report demonstrated a very comprehensive approach to safeguard the historic structures in the Village and that he would like to see the HPC involved in the process.

The Zoar Recreation Connection Group is working on obtaining the funds to contract the Environmental Design Group (EDG) to refine and revise potential trail alignments in the area and revise part of the open space master plan that was done for the Village in 2010. They have received a grant for ½ of the needed quote of \$6114. Scott requested council approve a total of \$750.00 as Zoar's portion to complete the project. Scott said he would donate ½ of this personally at \$375.00. Paul made the motion to allow the \$750.00 with Scott donating ½. Gayle seconded the motion; a roll call was all yes.

Council discussed the Cemetery Connector Trail. The township is currently constructing the River Walk Hiking Trail from Wilkshire to Hess Mill. Rather than have the River Walk end at Hess Mill, the Zoar Recreation Connection Group would like to continue the trail for access to the Arboretum and on to the Towpath. The cemetery land includes a pipestem access into the cemetery off of Hess Mill that is 25 feet wide that could easily be laid with aggregate 4-6 feet wide to create a visible path. Scott said much of the work can be done with volunteers leaving only aggregate, geotex fabric, posts and signs to be purchased. The estimated cost of these items is \$1250.00. Judy felt the trail should use the utility right-of-way between the Slutz and Carosselli homes rather than come through the cemetery. David said council will need to decide what is going to be done with the new cemetery land.

Council discussed the water drainage issue on Michael Land and the culvert at Hickory Lane. Scott said the estimate will be firmed up when Ron Deal returns from vacation. He expects the current estimate of \$2300 to reduce down as the homeowners do not want to use as much rip rap in the drainage areas. Scott expects an estimate around \$1800 or less. The homeowners on Hickory Lane will pay ½ of the total estimate. David would like to see the Township notified for their opinion on the proposed fix. Several council members agreed the Township should be involved. Patty ask for a legal opinion on the ownership of the repairs on Hickory Lane. She stated it is a private lane owned by the homeowners and she was not certain Village funds could be used. David stated that Hickory Lane homeowners are responsible for fixing their part of the drainage system. A special council meeting may be called when revised estimate is received as winter is just around the corner.

Scott requested council provide funding for seed and straw for the landscaping on 4<sup>th</sup> Street where the stumps were ground out. Several council members suggested planting trees. Council discussed the water runoff situation on Foltz all the way down the hill and the Spring Lot. It was suggested that a catch basin at the corner of Foltz and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets may be needed.

Scott will attend the Ohio Municipal League conference at the end of October and will inquire about setting up a Village cloud account to store all Village records.

Scott spoke briefly on a four year plan the Village has on record. Patty stated she does not recall this plan. Hans also stated he has no recall of a 4 year plan.

**Ordinance 2019-14:** Public Defender's Contract. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

**Ordinance 2019-15:** Ordinance reallocating 147.22 within the Street Budget to support traffic one way signs for alley. Motion to suspend rules and regulations made by Gayle and seconded by Joe. RC: All yes. Motion to pass as an emergency made by Gayle and seconded by Joe. Roll Call: All yes.

Meeting adjourned by Judy and Hans.

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Patty Smith, Fiscal Officer

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Scott Gordon, Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_