

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS,  
OHIO HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JULY 11, 2011 AT 7:30 P.M.

Vice Mayor Robert Reichert called the July 11, 2011 meeting of the Ottawa Hills Village Council to order at 7:32 p.m.

Clerk Treasurer Katherine O'Connell called the roll with Council members Rex Decker, Jeff Gibbs, Jack Straub, and Robert Reichert present. Council member Jim Walter was not present but was expected momentarily. Council member Norma King and Mayor Gilmore were not present and were not expected.

Also in attendance were Clerk Treasurer Katherine O'Connell, Village Solicitor Sarah McHugh and Village Manager Marc Thompson. In the audience were Nasrin Afjeh and Melissa Burden.

Mr. Reichert then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Reichert then asked if there were any citizen comments. Mrs. Afjeh asked that she be able to reserve any comments to a later time.

Mr. Gibbs made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2011 meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker reported on a June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee. At that meeting a review of financial activity on a year-to-date basis occurred. Substantial discussion occurred regarding the state budget and its impact on the Village of Ottawa Hills. Related to the adverse impacts of the state budget, discussion occurred at the Finance Committee meeting regarding a citizens committee which may provide insight to the Finance Committee and the Village Council. Mr. Decker emphasized that elected representatives of the community need to make certain that their responsibilities were fulfilled and that they not transfer decision making to a non-elected group of citizens.

Members of the Village staff are putting together a proposal for further review by the committee.

Mr. Decker said that he envisioned the committee helping educate citizens about the financial situation, looking at services and perhaps trying to identify a reserve level below which Village reserves would not fall without an effort at increasing the revenues.

Mr. Decker commented that funding capital improvements in the future will be a challenge in light of the elimination of the estate tax. Mr. Reichert mentioned that the Village had short term property tax levies on the ballot in the past to fund road improvements.

Mr. Thompson reminded everyone that there will be a Human Resources Committee meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Reichert reported that there was a resolution on the agenda which authorizes application for a grant through the Ohio Public Works Commission. The grant will involve improvements to the Talmadge Rd. bridge in 2012. The legislation is written in such a manner as to allow for other funding applications if appropriate.

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Mr. Straub reported on a meeting of the Utilities, Equipment, Buildings & Grounds Committee which occurred on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. At that meeting Russ Ely, a representative of the Citizens Energy Task Force made a presentation describing some potential energy efficiency projects which the Village may wish to undertake. The report from Mr. Ely was lengthy and the committee will need more time to study and evaluate the alternatives. There will be a follow up meeting in the near future.

Mr. Decker, also a member of the committee, said that the report provided by Mr. Ely indicated that the municipal building was in the bottom quartile for energy efficiency and also mentioned that there were some incentives available now which would offset some of the capital cost.

Mr. Straub commented that the applications to take advantage of those incentives were due by mid October.

Mr. Walter entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Straub continued by stating that part of the discussion at the meeting also involved Village owned property at Bancroft and Indian. Todd Kime and Pat Levy were in attendance. Mr. Straub indicated that the Foundation decided to get behind the project and have it be the focal point of a 2015 centennial celebration. He also mentioned a storm sewer project yet to occur this year which includes a \$260,000 commitment from the Village, a \$102,000 grant and a \$102,000 zero interest loan.

Mr. Reichert assigned to the Equipment, Utilities, Building & Grounds Committee the recent request by the University of Toledo regarding a sign on Village property along Secor Rd.

Brief discussion followed regarding using some funds which were originally identified for sewer improvements for sidewalks on Ashborne Rd.

Mr. Walter made a motion to authorize use of the funds for sidewalks. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Thompson commented that if the project could not be finished before the start of school then it would be deferred until next year.

Under the heading of old business Mr. Decker complimented Clerk Treasurer O'Connell for her insightful suggestion at the last meeting regarding waiver of the three reading rule as it related to the air soft/paintball legislation. He also asked that we clarify that the changes made were really a clarification and not new legislation.

Mr. Gibbs made a motion to authorize receipt of bids for tree trimming. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Attention then turned to legislation.

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Resolution 2011-7	Authorizing the mayor to submit one or more applications for funding to the Ohio Public Works Commission, and authorizing the mayor to enter into agreements as they may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining such financial assistance.
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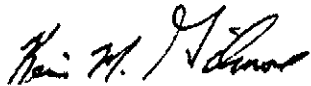
Discussion prior to consideration of the legislation made it clear that the legislation was not being adopted as an emergency.

Mr. Gibbs made a motion to dispense with the rule requiring a resolution to be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Straub seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Gibbs moved for passage of the resolution. Mr. Straub seconded the motion; the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 5 Yeas, 0 Nays.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Village Council will be on August 1 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.



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Kevin Gilmore, Mayor