

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JANUARY 5, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M.

Vice Mayor Robert Reichert called the January 5, 2009 meeting of the Ottawa Hills Village Council to order at 6:02 p.m. Clerk Treasurer Katherine O'Connell took the roll with Council members Robert Reichert, Rex Decker, Jeff Gibbs and Jack Straub present. Mayor Kevin Gilmore and Council member Norma King were absent and not expected at the meeting. Council member Jim Walter was expected momentarily. Also in attendance were Village Solicitor Sarah McHugh and Village Manager Marc Thompson.

In the audience was Nasrin Afjeh of W. Bancroft St.

Mr. Reichert then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

After the Pledge, Mr. Reichert asked Mrs. Afjeh if she had any comments to make under the citizen's comments portion of the meeting. Mrs. Afjeh responded that she had no comments at this time but wished to reserve the right to ask a question later in the meeting.

Mr. Walter entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Gibbs made a motion to approve the Council minutes from December 8, 2008. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker provided a brief Finance Committee report stating that year end numbers had not yet been finalized although income tax revenues for 2008 appear to be approximately 9.6% below the 2007 revenues. He stated that some additional revenue received in the next few days may be attributed to 2008 depending on postmark.

Likewise, expenditures for 2008 have not been finalized yet but appear to be at about 90% of budget.

Mr. Reichert asked if the 2008 year end numbers could be sent to the entire Council as soon as they are established.

Mr. Walter reported that some progress had been made recently regarding a potential deer count. Mr. Gibbs suggested that we may wish to contact the Wildwood Metropark and the Boy Scout reservation so that the entire corridor along the Ottawa River was included in the count.

Mr. Walter suggested that such a count would give some baseline information as to the approximate number of deer in the community which would help make better decisions regarding deer removal, if necessary.

Mr. Reichert reported that there is an item on the agenda related to streets under new business.

Village Solicitor Sarah McHugh mentioned to the Council that the Comte mediation was scheduled for Wednesday, January 7. The Boice lawsuit has a February trial date.

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Mr. Thompson reported on salt usage stating that in excess of 20% of the salt purchased has already been used. Discussion followed regarding the effects of not using as much salt as we have in the past. Mr. Gibbs suggested that additional communication with the citizens might be helpful.

Comments were made that the condition of the streets this year has been noticeably different than in the past years related to ice and snow removal. Mr. Reichert commented that it is not unusual for the Village to be spreading salt or plowing snow in April so that there is still a large part of the winter ahead, and therefore we need to conserve salt.

Mr. Thompson also reported on a notice received earlier in the day from Columbia Gas regarding a rate filing before the PUCO.

Mr. Decker asked about the recent letter many citizens received describing changes in the electric service provider. It was agreed that the Equipment, Utilities, Buildings & Grounds Committee should have another meeting and invite a representative of First Energy Solutions to the meeting to discuss the changes in that regard.

Under the heading of new business, Mr. Gibbs made a motion to authorize receipt of bids for the 2009 Orchard Rd. project. Mr. Straub seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Also under new business, Mr. Decker made a motion to maintain the status quo as it relates to the position of vice mayor, thereby nominating Mr. Reichert to continue in that capacity. Mr. Straub commented that based on the efficient manner in which Mr. Reichert was conducting this meeting he seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attention then turned to legislation.

Resolution 2009-1 (First reading)	Establishing a Joint Recreation Board for the Village of Ottawa Hills and establishing purpose for such joint recreation board.
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Discussion ensued regarding the need to provide some public notice of the consideration of creation of the recreation board. It was agreed that one of the reasons for having the legislation on the agenda for first reading was to allow for input not only from the Board of Education but also from the community. The Board of Education is considering an identical resolution and attachment at their upcoming meeting. It was agreed that an effort would be made to publicize the next meeting at which this legislation will be considered.

Mr. Reichert commented that, at least during the first year of the recreation board quarterly reports to the Council and the Board of Education may be more appropriate than one annual report. After the board is established, up and running, an annual report may be appropriate.

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Resolution 2009-2	Authorizing the hiring of the legal counsel for the Village of Ottawa Hills consistent with the provisions of Section 733.48 of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Decker moved to dispense with the rule requiring a Resolution be fully and distinctly read on three different days. Mr. Gibbs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

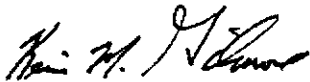
Mr. Decker moved for the passage of the Resolution. Mr. Walter seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Decker moved for final passage of the Resolution as an emergency measure and Mr. Walter seconded, the roll being called the vote thereon was as follows: 5 Yeas, 0 Nays.

There was no need for an executive session.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Village Council would be on February 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.



Kevin Gilmore, Mayor