

**VILLAGE OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL MEETING**

April 24, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Mayor Bradley Nicodemus opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Members of Council present were Dwayne Mohler, Jim Hochradel, Chuck Keller, Tony House, Bob Hankison and Mike Hamilton. Also present were Mayor Bradley Nicodemus, Police Chief Mike Tussey, Solicitor Jeff Feyko, and VA Teri Wise. Fiscal Officer Kathryn Jenkins was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Keller moved to approve the minutes of April 10, 2017 and Hamilton seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written with a 6-0 roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Council person Keller was added as the sponsor for added Ordinance 4-24-2017-4 (Employee Manual updates). Other sponsors added were Mohler – 4-24-2017-1, Hankinson 4-24-2017-2, House 4-24-2017-3. Keller moved to adopt the amended agenda and Mohler seconded 6-0 vote. Agenda was approved as amended.

VISITORS: Debbie Harris

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Debbie Harris – Township resident residing at 2208 Leonard Road spoke to Council regarding the shooting range and suggestions she had. She asked if the range could be repositioned from its current East to West configuration to a West to East so there is no interference with residents. Chief Tussey extended an invitation to show her the range and how it is configured so she will have a better understanding of its current position. Also it was discussed that at the cross bridge on Basil Road there is a private range and in addition on Basil north of town yet another private range. Councilperson Hochradel asked if she had any damage to her property and she said no not at her house but she has heard of other damage to others around the area. Council thanked Ms. Harris for her comments.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR – Report attached. Below are some highlights of the report:

- Engaged in readying pool for opening day (May 7th) all information regarding memberships have been posted to the website
- Tower street “No Truck Traffic” have been installed
- Continue to install radio reads
- Interviewed 3 vendors for software utility billing and have received their quotes
- Interviews for part time clerk will be on Thursday this week
- Diffuser project is now 100% completed
- Arbor Day celebration this Sunday April 30th

House asked about concession stand operation. VA stated Schaffner’s did not want to operate this year so she sent out emails to see if the users of the Parks would like to operate it as a fund raiser this year. If we find no one we will have to close it for the year.

Keller noted that on Summer Choice – Mooney’s old house there is a new dog fence. VA will follow up on it. Also Wednesday Councilperson Keller will not be at the Park meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Chairperson House reported the committee met before tonight’s Council meeting. Items discussed and approved:

- Approve purchase of 2010 Ford Escape to be used by Village employees in all departments which eliminate payment of mileage to employees going forward
- Appropriation changes we did not have enough information to approve. The Fiscal Officer is off sick but will be returning tomorrow so more information will be available.
- Also there are some appropriations regarding wages due to raise increase

The next meeting will be fourth Monday of May – May 22nd at 5:30 p.m. before Council meeting.

SERVICE COMMITTEE: Chairperson Mohler reported the next meeting will be May 15th at 5:30 p.m.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Chairperson Hankinson the legislation regarding the Fire Zone at the high school was on the agenda for a first reading tonight. The next meeting for the **Safety Committee is Monday, May 8th @ 6:00 pm.**

RULES COMMITTEE: Chairperson Keller stated the legislation regarding the Job Descriptions for Part time clerk, Part Time Streets and Executive Administrative Assistant is on the agenda for a first reading tonight. **Next meeting for the Rules Committee is Wednesday, May 3 @ 1:00 pm.**

FIRE BOARD REPORT: Minutes for the April meeting are out. The newly purchase engine was put into service last Thursday. The new medic is in the drawing stage and will be ordered at or before next meeting. **Next meeting will be Thursday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. at station 610.**

PLANNING COMMISSION: The final draft (Draft #4) of the VOB Zoning Codes and zoning map was reviewed. The **next meeting will be Thursday, May 11th at 7:00.**

SOLICITOR: The solicitor stated there are 4 new piece of legislation on the agenda and some contain emergency verbiage which he will review at the time of presentation. He asked for a brief executive session after regular business to land acquisition and potential litigation issues and to include Mayor, Chief and VA. Hochradel asked to also include personnel issues.

POLICE: Written report was distributed.

- Working on fraud case and jewelry theft
- Monitoring RP3 for noise
- Met with Village Engineer to discuss improvements at firing range

MAYOR:

- Nostalgic big band in Opera House and actually had a parking issue downtown it was a good event
- Saturday night is the fund raiser for the Opera House at the VFW with tickets still available
- Summer movies in Johnson Park during the month of June Life Bridge Church will sponsor the 5 movies
- Farmers Market will be from 4-7:30 pm on Tuesdays during the months from June to September and it will be located in the Ace Hardware parking lot
- BDRC has also discussed trying to show some PG 13 movies on Saturdays at the Opera House for older kids and adults.

FISCAL OFFICER: Fiscal Officer was out sick.

MOTIONS: Hochradel made a motion to go into Executive Session after regular business meeting for possible litigation, land acquisition and personnel issues. This will include all of Council, Mayor, Village Solicitor, Chief and VA. Mohler made a second with no further discussion a vote was taken and 6-0 vote passed the motion

ORDINANCES and RESOLUTIONS:

First Reading:

ORDINANCE 4-24-2017-1

**“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2017 APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE”**

SPONSOR – MOHLER

- Sponsor Mohler state since the Fiscal Officer was not available and they needed more information, this will go to a second reading on May 8th.

ORDINANCE 4-24-2017-2

**“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 412 OF THE
BALTIMORE CODIFIED ORDINANCES (OBSTRUCTION AND
SPECIAL USES OF PUBLIC WAYS) TO DESIGNATE A FIRE
LANE”**

SPONSOR – HANKINSON

- Sponsor Hankison noted this was legislation in response to issues raised by the fire department and school regarding the parking of cars in the fire lane during events and the lack of ability for law enforcement to enforce regulations and laws.
- Village Solicitor stated he talked to the Chief and since this is during football games there was no need to attach emergency stipulations to this ordinance.
- Sponsor Hankinson stated that since this legislation is not needed as an emergency, it will go through the three (3) reading process. May 8th will be the second reading of this ordinance

ORDINANCE 4-24-2017-3

"AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT) FOR THE 2017-2018 WINTER SEASON AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY"

SPONSOR – HOUSE

- Sponsor House this about purchasing salt from the State of Ohio and has been through committee. He also noted this legislation needed to be passed as an emergency so he made a motion to suspend the 3 reading rule. Councilperson Mohler second and there was no further discussion so vote was taken. 6-0 motion passed to bypass the three reading rule.
- Sponsor House then made a motion to adopt Ordinance 4-24-2017-3 and Councilperson Mohler seconded. There was no further discussion. Ordinance 4-24-2017-3 was adopted by a 6-0 vote.

ORDINANCE 4-24-2017-4

"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 240 (EMPLOYEE MANUAL OF PERSONNEL POLICIES AND REGULATIONS) OF THE BALTIMORE CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY"

SPONSOR – KELLER

- Sponsor Keller noted this has been through committee and in past Council meeting and this legislation needed to be passed as an emergency so he made a motion to bypass the 3 reading rule. Councilperson Hamilton second and there was no further discussion so vote was taken. 6-0 motion passed to suspend the three reading rule.
- Sponsor Keller then made a motion to adopt Ordinance 4-24-2017-4 and Councilperson Hamilton seconded. There was no further discussion. Ordinance 4-24-2017-4 was adopted by a 6-0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Firing Range: Mayor reported out that last Tuesday a county resident went to the County Commissioners meeting and in addition to that, 2 television stations ran stories on the firing range. The top complaints were Safety and the Village has been non responsiveness to the complainant on the issues they brought up at Village Council meetings. Safety is number one issue with the Village and we believe the range has operated in a safety manner very professionally. We have also had numerous meetings where we have discussed these concerns. Village officials will be meeting May 2nd with the County Commissioners and County Administrator to discuss further. We have also received a public records request all replies will be handled through the Village Solicitor. The Village will continue to make improvements to the range where we can or need to. Chief also stated that last Saturday morning in regards to the shooting that was not shown on the website as being scheduled, he met with a county resident who resides on Leonard Road about their concern because they did not see any shooting scheduled and they had scheduled a charitable event for that day. He will be supplying the Chief with a list of charitable events and the Chief will make sure no shooting takes place on those days. Chief agreed that the shooting on Saturday needs to be curtailed as well as Sunday exception would be for SWAT needs. There will be no Sunday shooting this season

but since the contracts have already been signed, the Saturday shootings will not totally disappear until new contracts with the academy are signed. The vast majority of time shooting hours are from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Chief said they had met with the Village Engineer to discuss the increase to the height of the brims. When we upgraded the range we had an OPATA official and review and he did approve the brim height of 11' to 13'. Chief did state he is going to increase it to 15' in height as well as do work on the side brims which would make the configuration of the shooting area like a horseshoe then the likelihood of a round getting out of there would be a very, very low probability. He is in the process of finding dirt to accomplish these improvements. Councilperson Hochradel stated we have meetings to talk about the bullet that went through the barn and not having a mark on it so he was wondering if we could get someone from the State to come in and investigate further and given us a written report. Mayor stated both Sgt Wagner from the Village PD and Sgt Collins from the Fairfield County Sheriff's department both firearm experts both determined this could not have come from our range. Councilperson Hochradel did not like the fact that all attendees that came to the meeting were giving the option of contacting the Chief and he would give them a tour and talk further about it. To date not one person has made that request of the Chief and Councilperson Mohler has had only one person approach him. Chief will look further into a formal investigation and the process to complete a report. Mayor stated that instead of meeting on an as needed basis, the Safety Committee will be meeting on a specific day each month going forward where updates from the Chief and inputs from residents from the County who would like to come in and discuss more about the shooting range. Next Safety meeting will be on Monday, May 8th at 6:00 pm.

Additional new business - Councilperson House brought up the continued comments and concerns he is receiving regarding the excess speed of a copper car on Hansberger between the hours of 7 - 7:28 each morning. Chief will have car in the area and sporadically monitor the area. Issue will be placed on Safety Committee agenda for May 8th.

VISITOR COMMENTS: None


LAST CALL:


Council took a short 5 minute recess at 8:21 p.m. and then went into Executive Session. Council returned to regular session at 9:35 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was no further business so House made a motion to dismiss and Hamilton seconded. A voice vote unanimously called for adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.


Kathryn Jenkins, Fiscal Officer


Bradley Nicodemus, Mayor