

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE COUNCIL HELD IN
THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON APRIL 1, 2019 AT 7:30 PM.

The April 1, 2019 meeting of the Ottawa Hills Village Council was called to order by Vice Mayor Jeff Gibbs at 7:30 pm.

Roll was taken with Edward Shimborske III, Dana Dunbar, Rex Decker, Jeff Gibbs and Kate O'Connell present. Mayor Kevin Gilmore and Councilmember John Lewis were absent from the meeting. Also present representing the Village of Ottawa Hills were Village Solicitor Sarah McHugh and Village Manager Marc Thompson.

Members of the audience included Yarko Kuk and Nasrin Afjeh.

Vice Mayor Gibbs led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no citizen comments.

Mrs. Dunbar made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2019, and the March 11, 2019 Council meetings. Mrs. O'Connell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

In the absence of Mr. Lewis, Mr. Thompson provided a brief Finance Committee report stating that March income tax collections were higher than projected and higher than March 2018. The apparent reason is that a non-resident refund was received in March which has been typically received in November. He also reported that operating expenses were about 18% of our operating budget through the first quarter of 2019. He reported that Mr. Lewis would have a more complete report regarding the Finance Committee at the next meeting.

Mr. Gibbs reported that the Human Resources Committee met related to employee health insurance and recommends adoption of Resolution 2019-9 to continue with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield on a month-to-month basis. Later in the year we expect an alternative from Paramount which may be attractive, so this topic may be reconsidered in mid-2019.

He also briefly reported on a future employee handbook update.

Mr. Shimborske led a discussion regarding sidewalk improvement stating that we were developing a five-year sidewalk repair plan. He also mentioned that we were focusing on installation of short sections of new sidewalk near the football field and on Orchard Road between Indian and Bancroft.

Mrs. Dunbar commented on the need for sidewalks on Brookside Road between Bancroft and Talmadge. A lengthy discussion followed in this regard.

Mr. Decker reported that the Equipment Utilities Buildings and Grounds Committee would be meeting soon to further the discussion and review of options related to the property at Dorr and Richards Road.

Mr. Gibbs reported on the recent meeting of the Environmental Task Force which included representatives from The Nature Conservancy and Partners for Clean Streams. He mentioned the water quality reports continue to show improvement and that discussion has begun regarding connecting paths through the floodplain with the paths intended to provide access to the floodplain.

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Mr. Gibbs continued his report stating that the Environmental Task Force was striving to involve other partners and to create educational opportunities in coordination with the Office of Village Life. He said the next meeting would be at the end of May and reported that the junior class will be working on the floodplain property west of Epworth Church. This is the location of the larger project for which the Village has received a grant from the Environment Protection Agency.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Gibbs emphasized that simply not mowing an area of floodplain is not the same as restoration. It was confirmed that one sanitary sewer crossing of the Ottawa River has been eliminated.

Mrs. O'Connell mentioned that a large tree had been removed from Falmouth Road. After some discussion it was concluded that the owner had contacted the Village about the removal and that it was creating some damage to the stone wall. Mr. Thompson reported that the specific tree in question was not in the public right-of-way.

Solicitor McHugh had no new items to report in terms of pending litigation.

Mr. Thompson reviewed upcoming meetings, including the PUD public hearing for the property at 4630 Brookside and provided a brief report regarding water valve and hydrant replacements as well as the lead water service replacements on Brookside Road.

Discussion followed under the heading of old business related to the ongoing issues with Epworth Church. Mr. Decker asked that the Village send a letter to Epworth Church, at the appropriate time, informing the church that they had complied with the requirements related to their special use expansion. Mr. Thompson said that additional work was necessary, specifically related to the detention pond. He also stated that there was another complaint regarding parking lot lighting from another residence. Mr. Decker understood that there was some additional work to be done on the part of the church, but that the church thought the work was nearly completed.

Attention then turned to legislation.

Resolution 2019-9

Authorizing an agreement with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide health insurance benefits for Village employees, establishing the amount of employee premium share, and declaring an emergency

Mrs. O'Connell made a motion to waive the three-reading requirement. Mrs. Dunbar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mrs. O'Connell made a motion to consider the legislation as an emergency. Mrs. Dunbar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mrs. O'Connell made a motion to adopt the legislation. Mrs. Dunbar seconded the motion. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

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Resolution 2019-10

Authorizing a contract with the Ohio
Department of Transportation for salt for the
2019/2020 winter, and declaring an
emergency

Mr. Shimborske made a motion to waive the three-reading requirement. Mrs. O'Connell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Shimborske made a motion to consider the legislation as an emergency. Mrs. O'Connell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Shimborske made a motion to adopt the legislation. Mrs. O'Connell seconded the motion. Upon call of the roll the motion was adopted unanimously.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be at 7:30 pm on May 6, 2019.

There was no need for an executive session.

Mr. Gibbs adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm.



Vice Mayor Jeff Gibbs