

MALVERN VILLAGE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 18, 2023

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Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor DeLong, Burgess, Craig DeLong, Wackerly, Thompson, Hubbard and Holmes were in attendance. Kaltenbaugh and Neading were in attendance and Murdock attended via Zoom.

Motion by Holmes, second by Burgess to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of September 5, 2023. All council members approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Sue Chiurco was in attendance to discuss the 231 S. Reed property that she and her husband had purchased in 1993. She is asking Council to consider an easement for the alley to allow her and her husband to sell the property. She asked what they could do to proceed and offered to pay their share of the costs if necessary to proceed with an easement or vacating the alley. Kaltenbaugh discussed that the alley has not been used since the garage was built on it, and would not be useable as is. He also discussed that the Village does not want to give up an alley every time they are approached, but they should evaluate each on a case by case basis. He explained that in this case, there are no waterlines under the alley and that since it is not usable, he would consider vacating the alley to allow the sale to proceed. Wackerly made a motion to vacate the alley located at 231 S. Reed Street, second by Burgess. All council members approved. Chiurco thanked council.

LEGISLATURE:

Motion by Burgess, second by Wackerly to suspend Rule 731.17 for Resolution 2023-21. All council members approved.

Motion by Wackerly, second by Burgess to adopt Resolution 2023-21, A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. All council members approved.

PARK: Mayor DeLong discussed that the section near the swing had been sectioned off using 4x4s and the service department was also looking into the slide.

Holmes discussed the equipment needing attention. He noted the plastic slides have been damaged, with one being cracked and the other having a hole in it. He also discussed that the steering wheels have been damaged on the playset.

FISCAL OFFICER/TAX DEPARTMENT: Neading provided council with Fund Status, Receipts, and Payment reports as of 9/17/2023. Neading discussed a date for Trick or Treat in October. Wackerly made a motion to hold Trick or Treat in the Village on Thursday, October 26th from 5:30-7:00, second Burgess. All council members approved. Neading discussed the Ritter family bus issue. She had spoken with Doug Neading from Stark County Educational Services regarding the matter. He explained that it more difficult than you would think. The bus driver has to have a description of the driver, the vehicle, and the license plate to report to the police. He recommended contacting the Carroll County Sherriff and asking them to be present at pick up and drop off times in an effort to stop cars from going around the bus as they load and unload the child.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: Kaltenbaugh updated Council on the water project and explained Tucson cannot get cement to finish capping certain sections. He has discussed using asphalt to get the job finished. He also explained that there was a service not tied in that was fixed and there are three valves that need to be fixed. Kaltenbaugh has received two applications for employment. He suggested hiring a fourth service employee. We had four through the winter last year and it was working well. He thinks it would be worth holding interviews. Wackerly made a motion to proceed with interviews and hiring a fourth Service Department employee, second by Holmes. All council members approved. Kaltenbaugh will arrange the interviews. Kaltenbaugh reported the final decision on Sycamore Road has been received and the courts determined that the Village is not responsible for Sycamore Road. Kaltenbaugh was pleased with the decision, and also the fact that the road is getting repaired with funds from EOG and the residents living on Sycamore will have a new road. He further discussed the overtime hours within the Service Department and explained, the plant will be checked first thing in the morning and again at 2:30 prior to the end of the day. He said even if there is an issue, the water supply will be sufficient from the end of the day until morning.

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Thompson discussed the street sign at Porter and Canton, and said it is difficult to see due to the tree. She also noted the street sign by Gordon's is bent and needs to be fixed. She received a call from Betty Lockhart regarding her property and the flood zone. Kaltenbaugh does not believe the property is in the flood zone. Lockhart is looking to sell the property and also inquired about the new owners replacing the existing trailer. Kaltenbaugh explained that the Lockhart property was grandfathered in, and new trailers will not be permitted to be brought into town, per the current legislation.

MAYOR: DeLong reported leaf clean-up would begin October 1st. He discussed Dancing in the Park and explained that it went well. He also discussed an issue with the Handbook regarding Jury Duty. As it is written, it does not allow for regular wages to be paid, and states that Vacation or Personal Time will be used. Wackerly made a motion to amend the handbook to allow for regular wages to be paid in the event an employee is called to serve jury duty, and the employee will not accept payment for their time from the courts, second by Burgess. All council members approved. DeLong also discussed employee gift cards for the Holiday Season. Wackerly made a motion to purchase a \$100.00 gift card for each Village employee for Thanksgiving and Christmas, including Justin Lucas as a "Thank You" for his help with waterline repairs (16 - \$100 gift cards to be purchased), second by Burgess. All council members approved. DeLong asked for volunteers to form an interview committee. Holmes, Burgess, and Wackerly volunteered to hold interviews along with Kaltenbaugh. Interviews will be arranged for September 26th at 6:00 for the two applicants.

COUNCIL: Burgess discussed Dancing in the Park and noted that it went very well. She felt that the Basket Raffle was the best raffle they have had.

Holmes discussed the Randy Byrd property and that fill has been dumped on the property. He asked if anything could be done. He also asked if something was going in where the old Hornets Nest was. Kaltenbaugh has not seen a building permit for anything. Holmes also inquired about the Sherriff's Department and asked if they had been patrolling town more regularly to control traffic. Kaltenbaugh does not believe they are spending more time in town.

Wackerly discussed the globe on the bridge being a hazard and asked that it be removed as soon as possible. He also asked for an update on the lights being replaced. Kaltenbaugh does not have a timeline as of now, there is only one vendor for the specific lights. Wackerly reported that there had been 96 ambulance calls since the previous meeting. He also discussed that the building is getting a new roof, they are painting inside, and they are doing a good job with upkeep of the building.

FINANCE: Motion by Burgess, second by Wackerly to pay the village bills from the appropriate funds for \$16,646.25 pre-approved by the Finance Committee 9/18/23. Also, \$9,796.17 in payroll pre-approved by the Finance Committee and paid 9/14/2023. All council members approved.

QUESTIONS: Clapper clarified that the Village was vacating the alley. Kaltenbaugh said yes, the Village would be vacating it. He also asked for the date of the Sycamore Road decision. Kaltenbaugh noted that the letter he received was dated September 14th.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Thompson, second by Hubbard to adjourn. All council members approved.

Next regular council meeting will be Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Malvern Village Hall.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer