**VILLAGE OF WAYNE LAKES**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE VILLAGE OFFICE**

 **1052 MAIN ST.**

**August 12, 2019**

Mayor J. Denise Wetzel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The prayer, pledge to the flag, and roll call followed. Council members present: Joan Falknor, Rita Robinett, John Swindler, Bob Tuco, and Dane Driver. There were nineteen (19) visitors present including; John McRoberts; Troy Stewart; George Mitterman; Rita Neff; Cindy Ploch; Ronnie & Martha North; Adam & Angie Wicker; Sharon Anderson; Mr. & Mrs. Weisenbarger; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Ramey; and Stan Robinett.

**Agenda**: Swindler moved to approve the agenda as submitted by the mayor. Falknor seconded. All present voted yea.

**Minutes:** Tuco moved to approve the July 8, 2019 council minutes as written. Swindler seconded. Robinett, Swindler, Tuco, and Driver voted yea. Falknor abstained.

**Expenses:** Tuco moved to approve the expenses and finance reports submitted by the fiscal officer to the council members three (3) days in advance for their review. Swindler seconded. All present voted yea. (Council members also signed the bank reconciliations showing the detail expenses, etc.) Fiscal officer noted that the month end reports are always available for anyone interested to review.

**Guest Speaker – Brice Schmitmeyer, Access Engineering - Sewer Project Update:**

Brice reported that they are still working on finalizing some of the engineering reports. The soil borings have been completed and they are starting to go through the reports that they just got back last week. They are planning on sitting down with some contractors to help them work out the details and final costs as accurate as possible. They are doing coordination work with others and other funding issues (grants available, etc.). Brice is planning on going to a funding seminar in Columbus sponsored by the USDA Rural Development Group to give them some idea as to how much grant money would be available. Also, in October, they will be meeting with some professional plumbers (five or six) that meet on a quarterly basis. They have done this in the past but they plan to go again to keep them updated on the project, which may represent some more funding possibilities. They plan to arrange another meeting with the Village, Neave Township, and with the county getting involved with the billing process and maintenance that would be involved with the sewer. There has been an initial meeting with the county and they seem very supportive. They are shooting to be able to present the report for review at the December Council Meeting for council to make a decision which way to go. They are striving to obtain all the grant money that is possible to keep the cost down as low as they can for the village residents. Several questions were asked (for example: Existing septic systems will probably be closed but officially it has not been decided at this point; drilling and trenching where possible to avoid tearing up the streets and lawns as much as possible.) Each individual property may be handled differently due to the elevation, etc.

**Council Business:**

**Vacant Council:** No one at the meeting indicated they were interested in stepping up to the vacant council seat vacated on May 13, 2019. The term would be through 12/31/2021. The mayor also reminded everyone that there will be two other council seats available at the end of the year and also for the mayor position. If anyone was interested to be part of the election process this November, they had to be registered with their petitions turned in to the Board of Elections by August 7th. It was reported that no one registered for the mayor position and only one for a council position. However, there is still a chance: The write-in deadline to register at the Board of Elections is August 26, 2019. Discussion followed with questions. The council can appoint council members after a council seat becomes available, but if they haven’t after thirty days it would then be up to the mayor to appoint (with council to approve.) As far as the mayor position come January 1, 2020; further information from our solicitor will be needed to be sure. It is felt that the President of Council would have to step up as acting mayor until the next formal or special election. The village would have three months to act without a mayor (or acting mayor).

**2020 Snow Removal Contract**: Tuco reported that Rod McNutt is still interested in handling the snow removal for the village for next year. Discussion followed: Since the village obtained bids last year for the snow removal and since the cost of the snow removal has not been over $5,000; obtaining three separate bids will not be necessary at this time. Tuco moved to contract with Rod McNutt for the snow removal in year 2020 keeping the same 2019 prices. Robinett seconded. All present voted yea.

**Completion of the Road Patching Project:** Tuco reported he and the contractor drove around checking spots that are needed yet to patch. They estimate the cost to be around $3,000. However, Tuco has not received the official quote at this time.

**Cucumber – ESS Connection:**  As discussed at the July 8th meeting, a bid was received last year as a temporary fix of $4,800. However, Tuco reported they decided to ask Doug Hollinger for a current bid and to also identify what involves the roads (since it does involve a catch basin, etc.)

**Golf Cart Ordinance**: As discussed during previous meetings, the golf cart ordinance, as it exists, still needs to be amended. Falknor moved to amend the original golf cart ordinance. Seconded by Robinett. All present voted yea.

**Mohawk Drive**: McRoberts reported that he checked with the court house and the Village has not taken any action as far as closing Mohawk Drive (as discussed during the July 8th meeting). If the village decided to officially close that road then the properties will be changed splitting it down the middle of the road. Also, anybody using that road as an address, it would need to be changed (for fire and rescue purposes). The mayor stated further that we need to check if the state laws would address this issue, since the road has not been used for years.

**Carp Hunting Ordinance**: As discussed during the July 8th council meeting, this Carp Hunting Ordinance still needs to be updated to accommodate the stocking of the “Grass Carp”.

**Ordinance:**

**2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2019-7-08-1 – AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2012-06-1, DATED JUNE 18, 2012, WHICH WAS REQUESTING A ZONING CHANGE SOLELY FOR A RETAIL BAIT SHOP IN THE VILLAGE OF WAYNE LAKES, DARKE COUNTY, GREENVILLE, OHIO** was read by title only by the Fiscal Officer. This was discussed at the July 8th meeting. No action was taken at this time.

**Mayor Updates**: The mayor noted again how much she appreciates all the people for their hard work and support for the village. At this time, the mayor wanted to point out a special thank you to Rita Neff. Rita ended up volunteering many days at the beach as the gatekeeper and she was everywhere cleaning up. Thank you Rita!

**2017-2018 Audit Status**: The audit has been completed by the 3rd party (Perry & Associates) and has been turned in to the state. It is now being reviewed by the state. The village should receive an official report and we hope some time in September. The fiscal officer stated she checks online often to see if it is listed under recent audits.

**Hooked on Fishing Program:** John Wenger wanted the mayor to inform everyone how much he appreciated what all the village and volunteers have done for this program. He was thankful for all the times the porta-pots were cleaned. Also, he stressed a couple of concerns that he wanted council to be aware: 1) He kept stocking toilet paper in the porta-pots and it kept disappearing, and 2) The shelter at Iroquois’s needs to be painted. Wenger recommends for the Lake Committee to start treating the lakes earlier next year. Tuco mentioned the weather was difficult this spring with all of the rain. (For example: Iroquois lake was treated during the day when all of the tornados hit that night and of course all the chemicals were washed away. Wenger still wants someone he can train to take over this program. The mayor pointed out that fish were stocked twice for that event.

**Sewer Project – Billing**: The mayor also reminded everyone to get the word out that billing for the sewer will likely start at the beginning of 2020 (depending on when the county is ready to start doing the billing, etc. and when the estimated amount is established.)

**RITA Reminder**. The mayor noted another reminder on RITA and paying estimated tax this year for residents and owners in the village. Required filing for 2019 will be by April 2020. Discussion followed (per McRobert’s question) as to checking with the City of Greenville Tax Department if the collecting of the taxes would be more economical than RITA. The village is currently under contract with RITA. The fiscal officer mentioned she used to work for the City of Greenville in the Tax Department and she is not aware of this sort of thing being handled by the City. The Tax department has their hands full just collecting for the City.

**Nanobubbles Aeration treatment on Shawnee**: At the July 8th council meeting, council voted to enter in to a contract with Solitude Lake Management Company for the Nanobubbles treatments at a monthly cost of $745. After further understanding of what all was involved requiring additional cost that were not previous understood, it has been decided to put this on hold (at least for this year).

**Possibility of having Town-Hall Meetings:** The mayor is considering the idea of the possibility of having special “Town-Hall Meetings” for the village residents on some of the bigger projects that council has to consider before the end of the year (like the sewer, the Anderson Building or having a potential office space). She feels having these “like Town-Hall meetings” for a specific topic one at a time and would benefit the residents (which would be held at the Community Building). The meetings would be for information shares only, not for making decisions. The fiscal officer noted they would have to be advertised and treated as “Special Council Meetings”.

 **Community Group Updates:**

**F.o.W.L**.: Adam Wicker updated council on the 5K Run, which will be held on Saturday, September 7th. Wicker also presented council with the race layout. Jackie Barton, Darke County Deputy, is organizing this race. Since having some of the roads closed last year, this subject was brought up as being a big issue. Jackie Barton suggested not closing the roads but having volunteers out wearing safety vests cautioning the vehicles to stay on one side or the other for the runners. This race should only involve an hour and a half or so. The layout of the race will be different than last year with the race starting and stopping at the Beach. They plan on notifying the residents where the race will be involved so they will be aware. Also, Vandalia Rental as one of the sponsors will be donating one of their street sweepers for them to use. Wicker stated he will be driving around with the street sweeper on September 5th and 6th trying to clean up the streets. There will be banners up with other sponsors down at the beach site. Also, day of the race, Wicker stated he will be putting out little yard signs along the route notifying the runners (obtaining permission from the residents before doing so). F.oW.L. is planning on having a Volunteers’ Meeting on Thursday, August 29th at 6:00p.m. at the Community Building for those interested in volunteering. They are looking for ten or twelve volunteers to help with registration and/or to caution drivers along the road. 5K Information will be posted on the village boards; village newsletters; facebook pages; the radio and newspapers. Council was asked and approval was given for F.o.W.L. to advertise a “Free Fishing Day” in the village for the day of the 5K Run. The possibility of getting a lifeguard so they could open the beach was discussed (depending on the weather). Wicker noted also that the backboards donated by the Harmon’s last year at the park have all ready been busted. Wicker asked council if they would implement getting a couple of quotes for heavy duty backboards. Wicker confirmed all proceeds from the 5K Run will go towards treating the lakes and/or for lake management. Cost to preregister for the race will be $20 and $25 for a shirt. The day of the race, the cost to register will be $30. Registration online will also be available. Check in for the race will be 7:30a.m.to 8:30 a.m. The Kid’s Rumble (about a one mile run) will start at 8:30 or 9:00 a.m. and then the regular 5K run will start shortly thereafter. The mayor pointed out that the last mosquito spray in the village is scheduled for September 5th.

**Bob Weaver Bait Shop**: The Fiscal Officer reported as of 07/31/2019, the Village has received $10,144 this year for fishing passes sold.

**E-Bird – Cindy Ploch** reported as of 7/31/2019 there has been 106 species of birds recorded in Wayne Lakes. Wayne Lakes is still second to Shawnee Prairie (107 species). Ploch reported her free public program at the Darke County Parks Nature Center will be on Thursday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. The program is called “Bird watching for Beginners – featuring the Birds of Wayne Lakes.” Reservations are required and can be made after Sept 1st by calling the Nature Center 937-548-0165.

**Village Updates:**

**Community Building**: Troy Stewart reported he has nine rentals scheduled for the month of August. Fort Jefferson church is also schedule for early September. Troy asked Cindy Ploch if she would be willing to have a Bird Watching class at the Community Center. Cindy commented she wanted to wait until after the October 3rd class before she made her decision. Rental income received as of 7/31/2019 is $2,700. In reference to the roof bids presented during the July 8th meeting, Tuco reported they are looking in to some community facilities grants that may be available. The mayor spoke of a flyer received in reference to the same USA Rural Development funding seminar that Brice was referring to earlier. This seminar will explain how to apply for grants, etc. for community facilities. Falknor mentioned this would not include grants for construction or repairs but may include low interest loans and possible grants for upgrades.

**Zoning:** Curtis Yount was not present.

**Tri-Village Rescue**: Rita Robinett reported the Tri-Village Rescue cancelled their meeting for July.

**Open Forum**: A resident requested zoning information. The mayor stated there are several zoning legislations in the books. Her advice was to contact Curtis Yount, if he had a question involving zoning. The mayor confirmed that Yount does drive through the village often but for a specific situation he should be contacted. It was noted the legislations (and specific copies) are available also for the public to review upon request.

**Village Special Project Reports:**

**Sewer**: John Swindler had nothing new to report that wasn’t discussed earlier in the meeting during Brice Schmitmeyer’s sewer update.

**Village Office Options**: Per the discussion during the July 8th meeting, the mayor again spoke of the options that must be decided soon (before November 1st). Discussion followed. Driver spoke of the possibility of utilizing the garage costing $10,000 to insulate the walls and new flooring for two rooms (which does not include plumbing, HVAC, septic, engineering plans for EPA approval, etc). No action was taken at this time. Final decision must be made by the October Council Meeting.

**Council Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee**: Swindler had nothing to report indicating once we know the audit final report from the state then the committee should meet and discuss appropriations.

**Swim Beach**: August 11th was the last day for the Swim Beach to be open this season. Per the July 8th meeting, the number of days opened, expected revenue, expenses, etc. was way under what was estimated. The mayor reported to council the final status in reference to the Swim Beach. Total income received from the Swim Beach entry fees thru weekending 8/11/2019 was $4,212. Expenses for the Swim Beach portion (estimating some final costs thru December for telephone and electricity) was $3,817.93. Revenue of $500 from F.o.W.L. went towards the Concession building expenses. Expenses for the concession building includes maintenance, utilities, and repairs needed totaling $2,090. Maintaining the building to a point is still necessary because of the restrooms, lockers, etc. Combined total of expenses was $5,908.43 leaving $1,196.43 in the red for the year. Rita Neff commented how many people coming from outside made comments as to how nice the beach is, etc. The mayor also spoke of a photographer taking pictures of the beach that ended up in a regional travel magazine (June issue). The article was “awesome” and was all about the uniqueness of this being available here in the middle of Ohio. In fact, the mayor reported several people who came to the beach were because they read about it in the magazine. Wicker asked if the village can operate at a loss just because it is unique. The mayor reported this season was a trial run to actually determine what it would cost to run the beach. They tried many new things. Rules were established with flexibility in making changes as they go. Some commented the price was too high and others commented (from outside) they felt it offered so much more for the price. The mayor also pointed out that perhaps in making a decision to keep the beach open, a decision will also have to be made if having the beach open is for the purpose of making money or providing a service for our residents and at what cost? Something else to consider, the mayor pointed out was that many of the houses in Wayne Lakes that have children have swimming pools. It does not seem clear any more as to how many homes having kids that live here are really interested. We did not have big numbers attending (the percentage was based on a small number of people.) Considering only ¼ of the visitors that came to the Beach were village residents. This makes one think if we really need to have the beach open anymore? Perhaps the Beach needs to become a different type of property for a different type of purpose. Wicker commented that the beach seemed more family orientated with families coming together and enjoying the smaller crowds. True, also, was the fact that there were no trouble makers causing problems this year as it usually was in the past. The mayor pointed out that the $4 entry fee was based on an average attendance of 75 a day, which we did not get (more like 25-30). We were not out to make money but to cover just the cost involved. The 75 estimated attendances were then based on having to pay for two lifeguards per day. However, with the attendance being much lower, only one lifeguard was needed except for one afternoon. It was pointed out that Greenville City Pool entry fee was at $5. Arcanum at $3 (plus having a separate tax levy specified for the pool). Wicker shared with council that all in all if it wasn’t for having the donations and sponsorship this year to run the concession stand, F.o.W.L. would have been in the hole. However, as it was, they came out in the black with $1500. However, broken down per man hour was only $5.00. Wicker further stated that if they had to pay wages for at least two people (if cooking) they would have been in the whole by $10,000. Council has a big decision: Considering the savings per utilizing only one lifeguard and all the volunteers the swim beach came out ahead by $394. Knowing we cannot rely heavily on volunteers next year as we have this year; plus the fact we did not have big numbers attending. Based on the entry logs, 74% attending this summer were outside of Wayne Lakes; and the cost to upgrade the septic tank to a holding tank to accommodate preparing food will be information taken in to account in having to make future decisions about the beach. Council will need to hear more input from the residents.

**Lake Management**: Tuco reported he has heard from the people on Shawnee Lake that they are fairly happy with the way it is turning out. Ten lakes have been treated this summer and some more than once. Using Sonar AS to treat the lakes along with the schedule planned for treating lakes every other year was discussed at the July 8th council meeting. Falknor questioned (and no one knew) how long Bob Weaver plans on keeping the Bait Shop open. Further discussion followed in reference to some people who are in the process of trying to purchase the Gate House Property and what they plan to do.

 **Village Maintenance**: Tuco mentioned that Tom Thompson will be replacing a screen at the end of the Cucumber Gate and will submit a receipt to be reimbursed. Tuco then reported he has about 25 tons of gravel he would like to donate to the village. In doing so he asked council permission to use the village tractor to move the gravel from one place to another and/or the Village parking lot. Falknor moved to allow Tuco to use the village tractor to move the gravel, as requested. Seconded by Swindler. Falknor, Robinett, Swindler, and Driver voted yea. Tuco abstained. A big thank you to Tuco for this donation!

**Newsletters**: Reminder for newsletter items to be in on a Wednesday by 5:00 p.m. to Karen Sink after every council meeting. The mayor then uses the Village printer for making copies. Those who have provided emails will get them sent to them. Copies will also be put in the green box in front of the garage and in the Village Office. The mayor has open hours at the office on Wednesday and Saturday from 4:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Newsletters and meeting minutes are also available on the village website; villageofwaynelakes@.com

**Welcome Packets/Wayne Lakes History:** Falknor reported she has sent the information to Karen sink and has asked her to put the information in a brochure format.

**Village Sanitation and Parks**: Falknor is proposing to have a “clean-up” day or weekend for the village. She is proposing to have a large dumpster in place with a two-ton maximum. However, we could get overcharged if people put in trash, appliances, garbage bags, etc. Payment would have to be upfront. Rumpke is $462 and Best Way is $365 that we would want for only a weekend. They would need a four day notice for delivery. This dumpster would be for leaves and any yard waste of any kind (even trees and large limbs). A person with a pickup truck could back in the dumpster and dump. NO BAGS OF ANY KIND. To avoid a mess like we had last year with people dumping bags of leaves and trash, we can have a lock on the dumpster and they also suggest a large tarp to cover it up at night. Also, what would really work is to have volunteers every two hours to check people in and out. Wicker suggested having the dumpster put where the transfer station is located. A question was asked if what the village pays Neave Township monthly ($540) if this would go towards the cost of having the dumpster for yard waste only. The Village has been paying for years supposedly to have access to the Neave’s Township transfer station. The mayor stated there is a possibility that the village residents (since they are in Neave’s Township) has been paying for the cost of their transfer station through their property tax. The mayor is going to check with the county auditor to verify if the residents of the Village are indeed being charged for the Township Transfer Station. Falknor also noted that there is a solid waste grant available. If we have a scheduled “Clean Up” day or weekend for the spring and fall, perhaps there is a possibility we could apply for the grant.

**Domestic Animal/Wildlife/Littering**: Robinett had nothing more to report at this time.

**Social Media:** The mayor reported that George Mitterman has the Village Website up and working (villageofwaynelakes@.com ). Newsletters, council minutes and legislations can now be viewed online.

Motion was made by Robinett to adjourn. Tuco seconded. All present voted yea. Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn L. Robinson, Fiscal Officer

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