Village of Chauncey Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER - The regular session of council was called to order by Mayor Renner at 5:31 PM via Zoom.

PLEDGE TO FLAG - Observed by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL - Taken by Fiscal Officer:
Seat 1 – Diana Burritt, present;
Seat 2 – Connaught Cullen, present;
Seat 3 – Tammy Hawk, present;
Seat 4 – Evelyn Nagy, absent;
Seat 5 – Diana Schoonover, present;
Seat 6 – John Canter, present;
Mayor – Amy Renner, Chaired;
Solicitor – Robert J. Shostak, in attendance;
Village Administrator – Chris Russell, in attendance
Guest –Rob Delach, Alicia Silverio and Jessie Powers.

APPROVAL OF BILLS
Motion made by John Canter and seconded by Tammy Hawk to approve the bills. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion to approve the January 12, 2021 council minutes moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by Diana Schoonover. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the January 11, 2021 Finance and Personnel committee minutes moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Connaught Cullen. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the January 12, 2021 Records Retention minutes moved by Diana Burritt and seconded by Diana Schoonover. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the January 19, 2021 special meeting minutes moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by John Canter. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCES AND REPORT FROM FISCAL OFFICER
Financial Reports for January 2021 were provided to Council members for review. Motion to approve financial report moved by Diana Schoonover and seconded by Tammy Hawk. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2021-2 (First Reading) – A Floodplain Management ordinance for the Village of Chauncey. Motion to introduce ordinance 2021-2 moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Diana Burritt.

The Solicitor brought up various section of the Floodplain Management ordinance that the Council needed to review:

Freeboard – The standards regarding "freeboard" will remain the same.

Substantial Damage – Council decided to no implement the (2) two 25% deductions. Keep substantial damage at 50% of market value.

Development in Floodway – Council was advised by Alicia Silverio to allow development with proper surveying/engineering documentation.

Decisions of the Appeals Committee – Removed the 2nd paragraph.

Ordinance 2021-3 – An ordinance reinstating Council member pay and increasing the Mayors salary. Motion to introduce ordinance 2021-3 moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by Diana Burritt. Motion to declare an emergency and suspend the rules of council moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by John Canter. Roll call vote:;

Diana Burritt – Yes Connaught Cullen – Yes Tammy Hawk – Yes

Diana Schoonover – Yes John Canter - Yes

Motion to adopt ordinance 2021-3 moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by Tammy Hawk. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-4 – A resolution adopting the 3-year strategic plan from PlanIT. Motion to introduce resolution 2021-4 moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Connaught Cullen. Motion to declare an emergency and suspend the rules of council moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by Diana Burritt. Roll call vote:

Diana Burritt – Yes Connaught Cullen – Yes Tammy Hawk – Yes

Diana Schoonover – Yes John Canter - Yes

Motion to adopt resolution 2021-4 moved by Diana Schoonover and seconded by John Canter. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-5 – A resolution authorizing match funds from the permissive tax fund and in-kind to be used towards the OPWC street improvement grant. Motion to introduce resolution 2021-5 moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Connaught Cullen. Motion to declare an

emergency and suspend the rules of council moved by Connaught Cullen and seconded by John Canter. Roll call vote:

Diana Burritt – Yes Connaught Cullen – Yes Tammy Hawk – Yes

Diana Schoonover – Yes John Canter - Yes

Motion to adopt resolution 2021-5 moved by John Canter and seconded by Tammy Hawk. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

OPWC – Chauncey's street paving project was selected for funding through the 2021 OPWC grant. The total project cost is $278,632 with $70,727 from our Permissive Tax fund and $12,000 in in-kind work such as traffic control. The project includes paving Ellis Avenue, May Avenue, Third Street, Smith Street, Spring Street, the hill on Monroe Street, and the first half of Mill Street. Council needs to approve the expenditure of match funds for the OPWC grant. Motion to introduce resolution 2021-5 (look under Ordinances and Resolutions).

Council Member and Mayor Compensation – This past year has shown a shift in the workload applied to Council members. The overall responsibilities have increased on top of maintaining numerous committee requirements. The Mayor would like to address the notion of reinstating Council member pay, which had been waived in 2008. After reviewing other Village Council members pay throughout the County, the Mayor suggest issuing a pay of $100 a month to all members.

Council also suggested increasing the Mayors salary due to the increased workload applied to the Mayors duties. Council suggested increasing the Mayor's salary to $600 a month. Motion to introduce ordinance 2021-3 (look under Ordinances and Resolutions).

The increase cannot be taken into effect until the next term period for elected Council members and the Mayor

Cozy Corner – The Mayor and Solicitor will be attending the next Athens County Land Bank meeting to discuss this property due to a breach of contract. Legal action may need to be taken since owner is not willing to comply with floodplain standards.

Playground Equipment – Some minor adjustments are expected to happen to the playground at the park. The basketball court may need to be moved or adjusted to a half court. Other equipment and concerns will be addressed at the next Park and Recreation Committee meeting.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS

Michael Burket – Mr. Burket wants to bring a brewery to the Village and wanted to introduce himself to Council.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The new Village Administrative Assistant, Chris Russell Jr., is doing great and learning the ropes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor received documentation of an unemployment claim from the previous Village Administrative Assistant who resigned from his position. The Solicitor provided Council with the employees leave papers. The Solicitor will keep Council informed of any taken actions.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor and Connaught Cullen have been evaluating the senior center to see what can be done to improve and utilize the space. Very preliminary thoughts but will bring more to Council after some brainstorming.

Sewer Line Replacement – The Mayor has been working with Stantec to review and evaluate the sewer lines throughout the Village. The estimated cost is around $4.9M. The lines are very old and are due to be replaced. Stantec's was able to help the Village find financing. The Village can receive a grant up to 80% of the total cost, leaving the Village 20% to pay. 2023 is the earliest action can be taken through a grant so the Village has a couple years to get through. The asked Council for authorization to proceed to put a bid out for an engineer to scope the work. Motion made to authorize the Mayor to be the Village representative of the sewer line project and to proceed with the bid moved by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Diana Schoonover. All in Favor – Yes. Motion carried.

The first Planning Commission meeting has been scheduled for March 3, 2021 at 5pm.

Jessie Powers of ORCA is trying to receive more funding from the state to address other needs on the trails and at the park.

Athens Bike Club wants to donate 13 bikes to Chauncey Residents. They plan to provide the Mayor a list of bike sizes.

Liz from the Chauncey library spoke to the Mayor about starting up the Community garden again for this coming year.

The Mayor is working on a master list of abandoned properties within the Village.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

Diana Burritt – Working on the newsletter and hopes to have it out in March. Will provide all Council members a draft copy before sending it out. A newsletter will be completed roughly every 3 months.
Connaught Cullen – Meeting next week regarding the Community Center.
Tammy Hawk – Excited to see everything come together.
Diana Schoonover – Nothing to report.

John Canter – Motion to excuse Evelyn moved by John Canter and seconded by Diana Schoonover. All in Favor – Yes.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, motion made by Tammy Hawk and seconded by Joe Canter to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:21.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021 at 5:30 via Zoom.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

By Mayor Amy Renner

RECORDED BY

Chelsie McKee, Fiscal Officer