**The Byesville Village Council met in Regular Session on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 5:30 pm, at Village Hall.**

**Those in attendance included Mayor Jay Jackson, Fiscal Officer Angela Grant and Village Solicitor Bill Ferguson**

**Mayor Jackson led The Pledge of Allegiance.** **Councilman Port offered a prayer.**

**Guest: Cindy Bond - OSU Extension and Norm Blanchard – CIC**

**Roll Call: p. – Neff, p. – Albright, p. – Warner, p. – Haren, p. – Port - p. – Kenworthy**

***Clerk:***

Councilman Kenworthy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Haren to approve the bills as presented. Yea (6) – Neff, Albright, Warner, Haren, Port, Kenworthy

\*Mrs. Warner asked a question regarding the arbitrator and if what was paid was the full amount or if it was split with another agency. The cost is split evenly with the Union.

\*Mr. Albright questioned the cost of the street sweeper repair. It was recorded at $607.38 out of both the street department and the water department. The Fiscal Officer confirmed that was a clerical error and was only deducted from the street department for a total of $607.38.

Councilman Port made a motion, seconded by Councilman Neff to approve the January 8th, 2020, meeting minutes, as presented. Yea (6) – Neff, Albright, Warner, Haren, Port, Kenworthy

***Administrator:***

***Mayor:***

Presented by Mayor Jackson.

Continuing to work on economic development and the budget. He did have a business meeting and had approximately 12-13 in attendance. They are open to the public and are good for brainstorming and networking. Mayor Jackson has met with Mr. Haren to get the plans underway for the Fireman’s Festival. Continuing to work on a project list for the new year. There will be a Beautification meeting February 27, at 6pm. He attended the CIC meeting with Mr. Port. He expressed his appreciation to J&S Tree Service for helping repair the line on the flag pole and get the flags up and repositioned.

***Park*:**

Presented by Park Liaison Council President Neff.

“Nothing at this time”

***Zoning:***

***Fire:*** Asst.Chief Bacon informed that the fire department has responded to 18 fire calls ytd. The department has been awarded the ODNR grant, which will be used to purchase equipment. Planning for the Fireman’s Festival is underway and going well.

***EMS:*** Jeremy Rice reported that they have responded to 73 EMS calls ytd. The ambulance is still being prepared. They have received a new iPad from the Guernsey County Sheriff’s Office that will show all the calls and it is equipped with a mapping and GPS system to help with locations. There are five people starting EMT class on March 1st.

***Police:***

***Solicitor:***

“No formal report”

***Village Services:*** Mr. Albright asked if there has been any progress with the property on 1st Street. Mayor Jackson stated that they are able to get on the property to begin clean up, however, it has been raining and there is too much mud at this time. Hopefully the clean up will begin next week. Mr. Albright asked to schedule a Village Services meeting on February 17th at 4pm. The meeting was tentatively set until it was confirmed that the date and time worked for Village Administrator, Mr. Dudley.

***Finance:*** Mrs. Warner requested to schedule a finance meeting to work through the outstanding issues/questions on the budget. It was decided to wait until Mr. Dudley could confirm his availability.

***Legislative*:** Mr. Kenworthy discussed whether there was a need to create a resolution regarding placement of political signs. There is currently an ordinance stating that signs must be removed within 10 days following an election, but not one stating the timeframe a sign can be put up before an election. It was discussed to have a 45-60 day time period. Mr. Ferguson stated that he would draw up a resolution for 45 days and one for 60 days and the council can decide and sign. He did not feel a special meeting needed to be scheduled to do so.

***Guest***

Cindy Bond with OSU Extension discussed how important it is for everyone to participate in the upcoming census. The average completion/participation for Guernsey County is 20%, with 30% being the preference. The census is used for funding and for every person that fails to complete the census, $1200 of funding is lost. The census is only done every 10 years, so if for example, 100 people do not complete the census, that is $1.2M lost worth of funding for Guernsey County. There are areas that have only received 1/5 of the funding available to them due to people not participating. There will be multiple ways to fill out the census: online, mail, or a person coming door to door. The census will never ask for a credit card, bank account or your drivers’ license.

Norm Blanchard with the CIC spoke asking for the funding from the Village of Byesville to be reinstated. The CIC helps bring jobs to the area by bringing in new businesses. Mr. Blanchard stated that Rural King is still in the planning stages and will be putting 2 stores in, but have 18 sites they are choosing from. The CIC has a small business loan program to help get new businesses started. It is up to $25K. They are trying desperately to get something on the Pomegranate site. The property has issues and with the asking price, there are concerns. The Fabri Form building is also available. They are working with Colgate to get the road leading in to their warehouse paved. The estimated cost is $43K and they are working on several funding sources to help with this project. Mrs. Warner asked if there are any potential businesses going into the old Kmart building, minus Rural King. He stated that Rural King would only need half of the space and the CIC has contacted many other companies to see if there was any interest. At this point, there is not.

***Additional Business:***

**Kenworthy:**

**Neff:**

**Albright:**

**Warner:**

**Haren:**

**Port: Mr. Port stated that the CIC is looking to expand the business park. There is 30 acres of abandoned mines. There are multiple organizations that will be working together for that project. There will be a computerized inventory of buildings and sites available for businesses looking to come to the area. (City, Village or County) A mapping program is also being looked at for $120K-$170K. It will be used for the whole county to give street level and topographic imaging.**

**Mr. Port followed on the 2nd Street property and stated that he and Mayor Jackson met with the people from ARK to see if they would be interested in helping within the village. They looked at the 2nd Street property, as well of some others. The representatives stated they would be interested in helping within the Village.**

**Media:**

***Meeting Adjourned:***

Councilman Albright made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Warner

Yea (6) – Neff, Albright, Warner, Haren, Port, Kenworthy

Meeting Adjourned at 6:09 pm.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mayor Jay Jackson**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Minutes prepared by Village Fiscal Officer, Angela Grant**