**The Byesville Village Council met in Regular Session on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 5:30 pm, at Village Hall.**

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

**Mayor Jackson led The Pledge of Allegiance.** **Administrator Dudley offered a prayer.**

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

**Guest: State Senator Tim Schaffer, Guernsey County Commissioner Skip Gardner, and Rusty Winland**

**\*\*Mr. Winland presented a map of his property regarding a building permit and variance that he has requested. Mr. Dudley stated that a Zoning Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 6pm.**

**\*\*Senator Tim Schaffer discussed the CARES Act funding and stated that the state has been getting the money out to the county offices as quickly as possible. He urged the mayor and council to be cautious with the way it was spent and be sure that the purchases meet the criteria of the CARES Act funding. He also stated that his personal advice is that entities should be creative with the way the monies are spent, but be sure to document and have ways to prove the need due to COVID-19.**

**Senator Schaffer discussed two pieces of legislature that he is working currently working on. One is regarding police, fire/ems, and their families. It would increase the felony level for someone that is charged with intimidating/harassing a member of police, fire/EMS, and/or their family members. The second piece would allow entities to receive money from individuals that cause damage/destruction to local government’s property from riots. Senator Schaffer stressed that the taxpayer’s money should not have to be spent to cover someone else’s actions.**

**The state budget is starting to stabilize and looking much better. The sales tax is up and the economy is coming back much quicker than he had anticipated.**

**Councilman Port asked Senator Schaffer if he was behind bringing broadband internet to our region. Senator Schaffer stated is supporting HB13 and that he had met with the governor’s staff regarding some amendments being made. Broadband is especially important right now with students and employees working from home.**

**\*\*GC Commissioner Skip Gardner discussed the upcoming election. Commissioner Gardner is up for reelection and would appreciate everyone’s support. Mr. Gardner stated that he has always enjoyed working with and helping out Byesville as much as possible. He mentioned the Glass Avenue project and that it had been an ongoing battle and is glad to finally be to the place where the project will be getting underway. Mr. Gardner spoke on the funding that he and the other commissioners have provided to Byesville, as part of the Main Street program. Mr. Gardner questioned when he first came in office why monies were set aside for Cambridge Main Street, but not Byesville. He was able to, along with the other commissioners, make it a permanent line item on their budget.**

**Commissioner Gardner stressed that he and the other two commissioners that are currently in office, Ron Gombeda and Dave Wilson, work very well together and always have the county’s best interest in mind.**

***Clerk:***

Councilman Kenworthy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Port to approve the September 23, 2020, meeting minutes, as presented.

Councilwoman asked for an update on the Glass Ave. project, in regard, the easement for the lift station, and CARES Act funds. Mr. Dudley stated that he would cover those topics in his report.

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

Councilman Kenworthy made a motion, seconded by Councilman Neff to approve the bills as presented.

Councilwoman Warner enquired as to why Mayor Jackson purchased cornstalks for $125 and stated that she has been able to get them donated in the past. Mayor Jackson stated that he was not aware of that or whom he should contact.

Councilwoman Warner asked about the deductible reimbursement for N. 3rd Street. Mr. Dudley stated that he approved the reimbursement because the resident’s home and car sustained substantial damage. Rather than claim it on the Village’s insurance policy with a $1000 deductible, it was more cost effective to reimburse the resident for his deductible. The resident only claimed the damages to his vehicle and did not file a claim for the damages to his home. Due to sovereign immunity, the village is not liable, but Mr. Dudley feels that it is a good policy/practice to cover these instances for our residents.

Councilman Albright requested clarification on the boots/pants reimbursements for the Union employees. It was stated by Mr. Dudley that per the Union contract, each employee will be reimbursed up to $200, two times per year for boots and one time per year for pants. It was noted by Mr. Albright that the amounts differ for each employee’s reimbursement and Ms. Grant stated that it is because some spent less on the boots they purchased than others. Mr. Albright asked if there was an agreement or contract with a local supplier that the employees would purchases their boots/pants from and in turn, there would be a savings to the village for the quantity purchase. Mr. Dudley stated that was not how the contract was written and the employees were free to choose where they purchased from.

Councilwoman Warner asked for an update on K9 Xato regarding the vet bills. Ms. Grant stated that the bill in question was for the vet when Xato was ill and Mayor Jackson noted that Chief May was present to give an update.

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

***Administrator:***

**Water Operations**

Routine Maintenance and Operation: Clean and maintain sediment basins, CIP filter units weekly, back-wash at least one Aeralater per day, maintain chemical levels. Welding on Aerolators as needed.

Water Improvement Project: A lot of work has been completed and a lot is ongoing. UF units 4 & 5 went online today. Pressure filters 1-4 are being tested however we still have some programming to complete. There is a substantial amount of programming on various functions that is taking place currently. No problems of substantial concern recently.

Distribution: Service calls, shut offs, turn on, OUPS tickets. meter reads. Repair leak on E. Spruce.

Personnel: We have hired Ryan Denham to fill a vacancy at the Water Treatment Plant. Ryan currently has a Class II Certification and is eligible to take his Class III this month.

**Wastewater Operations**

Routine Maintenance and Operation: Pressing and composting as scheduled, routine, and preventative maintenance as scheduled.

Sewer Reline Project Phase II: The project is 99% complete. We need to repair an area behind Stop 9 church.

GPS Wastewater line: Phase II is being advertised for bid. Bids will be due by 10/22. Still working with the school to finalize the easement for the lift station. Their attorney had a couple requests for changes. Phase III design is almost complete and ready to send to the OEPA for a permit to install. I have prepared and sent easement requests for Phase III to the respective property owners.

**Street**

Routine Maintenance and Operation: Clean catch basins and culverts, repair leak holes, sweep streets, assist distribution crew as needed.

Glass Ave: The contractor has signed the contract. The commissioners have the contract and will be signing it ASAP. We have a pre-construction meeting scheduled for 10/27. We will be able to obtain an estimated commencement at this meeting.

New LED Lighting: New LED bulbs have been placed in all the downtown streetlights. This was made possible through a grant from AEP.

Culvert: A collapsed culvert was the culprit of the deterioration of the alley next to Subway. Village personnel removed the deteriorated galvanized steel culvert and replaced with new 10” dual wall plastic.

Fall Decorations: Under the direction of the Mayor, Village personnel have been working on the Fall décor throughout the Village.

Misc. Work: Maintain streets, repair, clean, maintain equipment and facilities, patch holes as material is available. Clean and repair culverts and catch basins.

***General Administration***

Routine Administrative Functions: Oversee operations at the Street, WTP and WWTP departments, review and sign PO’s and invoices, H.R. functions, payroll preparation, work cooperatively with the Mayor, Fiscal Officer, Income Tax, Utilities Clerk, Park Liaison, Building Inspector, Village Council, Police and Fire to ensure the day-to-day operation of the Village.

**Zoning**: 1-Building / 1-Container. I would like to do a Zoning committee meeting next Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

Health Insurance Renewal: Our insurance is up for renewal on 11/30/2020. I am working with brokers to evaluate our best options.

ALI: I attended a virtual session of the Appalachian Leadership Institute. The discussion was based around “natural and cultural assets” and how to take advantage of such assets to attract more people to your community.

Ohio ROW: I have spoken to Mr. Sandine and expressed our need to invoke the suspension of our agreement until invoices are paid from the utility providers. I am also including an email attached to this report, that he sent the Mayor in August expressing the same.

SAM Update: I updated our SAM registration. This is an annual registration that provides eligibility for Federal grants and funding.

Executive session requested for personnel matters.

***Mayor:***

Presented by Mayor Jackson

Halloween Trick or Treat will be Thursday, October 29, 5:30-6:30pm with a social distanced parade to follow at 7pm. There will be treats available after the parade at the fire department. It will be sponsored by MVHC and other village businesses.

We have been in the process of cleaning up the scrap on the hill and making progress. I have also been getting a lot of great feedback on the beautification efforts.

We will be discussing the CARES Act funding coming up.

***Park*: -** Presented by Park Liaison Council President Neff

Nothing at this time.

***Fire:*** -Presented by Asst. Chief Noah Bacon

Chicken BBQ is scheduled for the upcoming Saturday 11am until sold out. There will be a live stream for the playoff football game Saturday evening and concessions will be available. The fire department has some upcoming trainings, so you will see them out and about. Mr. Dudley stated that there would be a training held Sunday, October 18, 1pm-3pm and Seneca Ave. to Main Street will be blocked off.

***Police:*** Chief May stated that K9 Xato had been very ill and he is now doing much better. The vet felt that it was most likely a virus. Xato will be going for his recertification in two weeks. Chief May stated that the department has had 58 cases go through Mayor’s Court and 80 cases go through Municipal Court. Year to date they have had approximately 700 calls. Currently they have 17 pending cases: 1 rape, 1 B & E, and 15 felony drug. The department handles all of their own felony investigations except crimes against children. The GC Sheriff’s Office handles the cases with crimes against children and Ohio BCI has a department that assists the sheriff’s department. The majority of the felony cases within the village are drug related. Since COVID, the process of how the cases are handled has changed because the BCI office in Cambridge is closed and the drugs now have to be taken to the BCI office in Athens or Ridgefield.

***Solicitor:*** No Report – Mr. Ferguson had left the meeting prior to this time.

***Village Services:*** Mr. Albright asked if there would be any additional paving done this year. Mr. Dudley stated that will not be decided until the cost is determined for the Glass Ave. project. Mr. Albright would like to see the alley beside Galaxy Pizza completed.

***Finance:*** Mrs. Warner would like to schedule a Finance meeting for Wednesday, October 28 at 4:30pm before the regularly scheduled council meeting.

***Legislative*:** Mr. Kenworthy presented:

Resolution 2020-11 Amending Appropriations for Fire Department 2901

Motion to approve: Neff 2nd: Warner

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

Resolution 2020-12 Transfer of Funds

Motion to Approve: Haren 2nd: Port

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

Ordinance 2020-18 Amending Section 1301.02 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Byesville, Ohio

Second Reading

Ordinance 2020-20 Amending Section 1331.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Byesville, Ohio Regarding Swimming Pool Fencing

First Reading

Mr. Kenworthy would like to hold a Legislative Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30pm.

***Additional Business:***

**Kenworthy: Did the trash trucks get inspected this year? Mr. Dudley stated that they did not due to COVID. Mr. Kenworthy stated there was an issue with a company’s truck and he would bring it up to the police chief.**

**Neff:** **Thank you, Senator Schaffer and Commissioner Gardner for coming to the meeting.**

**Albright: Will we be putting in any additional waterlines this year? Mr. Dudley stated that new meters are the priority at this time. Mr. Dudley felt that the meter replacement is approximately halfway done.**

**Warner: Asking for clarification on Trick or Treat...Thursday, October 29th, 5:30-6:30pm**

**Haren: ---**

**Port: CIC held their monthly meeting and are saying that Rural King is close to being a done deal. They are waiting for the Cambridge Council to meet. Mr. Gardner stated that he had spoken to Mayor Orr earlier in the day and he felt that it was getting very close. It is set to be three separate stores within the one building. Industrial Blvd (the road leading into Colgate) is ready to get underway on October 19th.**

**Media: Clarification on the legislative, zoning and finance meetings.**

Motion to enter Executive session: Port 2nd: Neff

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

Entered Executive Session: 7:44pm

Resume Regular Session: pm

***Meeting Adjourned***:

Motion to adjourn: 2nd:

Meeting Adjourned: pm

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**Mayor Jay Jackson**

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