

**Village of Wellington
Council Minutes
May 21, 2012
Council Chambers**

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 7:00 p.m.

II. MAYOR O'KEEFE- ROLL CALL:

Council President Sandy Denes-present	Councilman Steve Maurer-present
Councilwoman Helen Dronsfield-present	Councilman Hans Schneider-present
Councilman Jeff Hyde-present	Councilman Guy Wells-present

Others Present: Village Manager Pyles, Law Director Bond, Finance Director Shaw, Public Works Superintendent Brasee, Police Chief Rollins, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Rosemark, Acting Electric Superintendent Bealer, Zoning Inspector Furcron and Clerk Gundert.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

Mr. Wells requested that the minutes be changed regarding the Joint Meeting with the Township Trustees. He requested the minutes on page 3, item b) be changed as follows: *“Motion by Wells, 2nd by Hyde to recess this meeting due to missing members and ~~reschedule~~ resume the meeting ~~until~~ on May21, 2012.* Motion by Denes 2nd by Wells to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2012 meeting as amended. Vote was taken, motion carried with all voting “yes”.

IV. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

101 General Fund	\$30,049.54
208 Permissive Tax	7,328.87
401 Capital	65,333.08
501 Water	8,646.02
502 Sewer	3,241.08
503 Electric	10,923.42
503 Power Costs	0.00
504 Garbage	25,192.70
206 Storm Sewer	162,538.00
508 Consumer Deposit	664.85
Payroll	<u>80,975.79</u>
Total	\$394,893.35

Mr. Maurer had questions on the expenses. Ms. Shaw and Mr. Pyles along with the Superintendents answered the questions. Motion by Dronsfield, 2nd by Wells to approve the expenses. Vote was taken, motion carried with all voting “yes”.

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL AND VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

- **Police Chief Rollins** – Chief Rollins reported that over the past weekend many garages and storage sheds on Forest and McKinley Streets were broken into and items were stolen. The items were recovered and the investigation is continuing to catch the person(s) responsible. Chief Rollins reminded residents to keep garages and storage sheds locked and to be vigilant and report any suspicious behavior or people to the police department.

- **Clerk Gundert** – Nothing to report.
- **Finance Director Shaw – Finance Department Report** - Ms. Shaw noted that her report was in tonight’s packet and asked if there were any questions. **Collection Agency** – Ms. Shaw reported that the contract had been signed with the new collection agency for income taxes and the tax administrator was working on starting to place accounts with them for collection. **Class Tour** – Ms. Shaw reported that 19 students came from a 6th grade class and toured the building. Many of them had never been to the town hall. They had many questions. She supplied them with tax revenue figures for the past 5 years to calculate statistics on. Ms. Shaw reported she had received an email from the teacher stating that the students enjoyed the field trip and learned many things during the trip. Ms Dronsfield commented that she had spoken to some of the students that were on the field trip and received very positive comments from the students that attended the class visitation. **New Employee Fraud Hot Line** – Ms. Shaw has started informing new employees about the fraud hot line as mandated by the last state audit.. **Public Records Training** – Ms. Shaw and Clerk Gundert attended a half day training class on Public Records Retention held in Strongsville. **RITA Ordinance** – The ordinance to contract with RITA to collect income taxes for the Village is on the agenda for a first reading tonight. This topic will be discussed further in the Finance Committee meeting tonight after the council meeting. Ms Denes questioned if there would be a local office for tax preparation. The AARP tax service will not complete the local returns. Ms. Denes questioned what would be available for these people if the Village has RITA doing the tax collection. There will be no local tax preparation. Residents will have to contact RITA located in Brecksville for help. The Village could have a local computer available for residents use. **Grafton Cable Invoice** – Mr. Schneider questioned the invoice that had been submitted to Grafton Cable for pole rental and land lease that was included in the Finance Director’s report. He questioned that amount of the invoice. Ms. Shaw stated it was over \$20,000.00. Ms. Shaw has sent the invoice but has not received payment.
- **Law Director Bond** - Nothing to report.
- **Village Manager Pyles - Staff Reports** - Staff reports were included in the council packet. He stated that he or the superintendents present would be happy to answer any questions. **Schools Community Service Project** – Mr. Pyles thanked the schools for sponsoring the student community service project. There were 5 high school students assigned to the town hall. They spread mulch and cleaned up the area in front of the town hall. There were 10 students assigned to the recreation park. They were supposed to plant trees however the wet weather prohibited that. Instead they cleaned up litter, weeding and completing other various projects. **Splash Pad** – Mr. Pyles reported that the Splash Pad is open and operational for all residents to use. **Light Bulb Exchange** – Mr. Pyles informed residents that on Saturday, May 26th, Farm & Home Hardware is hosting a CFL light bulb exchange. Any resident can come to Farm & Home Hardware between the hours of 10 am to 2 pm and bring their utility bill and any CFL light bulbs and receive high energy efficient light bulbs in exchange. There is no cost for this. Also a box will be placed at the utility department of the town hall for CFL light bulb disposal. CFL bulbs contain small amounts of mercury and should not be disposed of in the garbage.

Motion by Wells, 2nd by Maurer to recess from regular council meeting at 7:15 pm and begin Joint meeting of Wellington Council and Wellington Township Trustees. Vote was taken, motion carried with all voting “yes”.

- a) Roll Call – Denes – present, Dronsfield – present, Hyde – present, Maurer – present, Schneider – present, Wells – present, McAvena – present, Barber – absent, Fisher –

- present.
- b) Approval of March 19, 2012 minutes – Motion by Dronsfield, 2nd by Maurer to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2012 meeting. Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”.
 - c) Approval of May 2, 2011 minutes – Motion by Schneider, 2nd by Denes to approve the minutes from the joint meeting held May 2, 2011. Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”.
 - d) Old Business – no old business
 - e) New Business – **Cemetery Appearance** – Mr. Wells reported that he had driven through the cemetery on Sunday and the Cemetery looked wonderful. He complimented Ms. Navarre, sexton, on how nice it looked. **Current Cemetery Funding** – The Mayor explained the funding that the Village of Wellington has decided to give the Cemetery this year. The Cemetery will receive the \$19,906 (.22 mils) that the Village received from the county and the Village will agree to forgive \$20,000.00 on the loan for property purchased. This is a 16% reduction in revenue which is the same as the Village received from the county. A lengthy discussion followed. Louise Grose, Cemetery Board Member and clerk of the Township was very opposed to receiving this reduced amount. Linda Navarre, sexton for the cemetery expressed her displeasure with this amount also. She felt the Village should follow the Ordinance passed last year and pay the .52 mils. Steve Bond stated that the ordinance states that the Village is only liable for the amount of money the Village received from the county. The cemetery budget will have to be reduced because of this loss in revenue. Council remained firm in their decision of these amounts of funding for the cemetery.
 - f) **Resolution no 2012-17** A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON AND THE TRUSTEES FO WELLINGTON TOWNSHIP DETERMINING THE RATE OF TAXATION TO BE LEVIED UPON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON FOR CEMETERY PURPOSES.
A lengthy discussion of funding amounts for this resolution was discussed. Mr McAvena stated he was very confused and suggested a joint work session to work out an amicable agreement for this funding amount. This resolution must be passed in May per state statute so this has to be decided tonight. Ms. Schneider proposed a millage rate of .30 mils be used for the ordinance in 2013. Members of the township felt the millage rate should be higher. After discussion, motion by Schneider, 2nd by Maurer to levy .30 mills tax rate for Resolution 2012-17. Vote was taken, motion passed (6-2) with the following votes: Denes-yes, Dronsfield – yes, Hyde –yes, Maurer – yes, Schneider – yes, Wells – yes, McAvena – no, Fisher – no.
 - g) Mr. Bond will prepare an ordinance for the next council meeting to grant the cemetery \$20,000 in forgiveness on their loan to the Village.
 - h) Mr. Schneider questioned how the cemetery board members are chosen. One is a representative of the Wellington Township Trustees, one is a representative of Wellington Council, and the third is an at large position chosen by the other two members of the cemetery board. It is a 3 year term. Louse Grose currently holds that position. Her term is up May 2013. At the meeting next year the at large position will be chosen again.
 - i) Move to adjourn the joint meeting – Motion by Maurer, 2nd by Denes to adjourn the joint meeting between the Village of Wellington council and Wellington Township trustees. Vote was taken, motion carried with all members present voting “yes”.

Motion by Wells, 2nd by Denes to resume the regular council meeting. Roll call taken showing all members of council present.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

- **Finance/Audit Committee** – Mr. Hyde reported that finance committee will meet tonight after the council meeting. The committee will be discussing contracting with RITA for income tax collection.
- **Fire Board** – Mr. Hyde reported that the board will meet Wednesday, June 6, 2012 at the Fire Station.
- **Police Committee** - Mr. Maurer reported that the committee will meet on June 4, 2012 after the council meeting. **Police Officers Memorial in Oberlin** – Mr. Maurer reported that he attended the Police Officers Memorial Ceremony held in Oberlin. Officers Shelton, Poling and Bryant represented Wellington Police Department. Mr. Maurer commended the Wellington officers on their participation in this ceremony.
- **South Lorain County Ambulance Board** – Mr. Maurer reported the next ambulance board meeting is Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 7:00 pm at Ambulance Headquarters. The ambulance held their annual open house yesterday. Lifeflight, the State Patrol and Tom Kelly from the county participated.
- **Public Works Committee** - Ms. Dronsfield reported that the Public Works Committee will meet prior to the council meeting on June 4, 2012 at 6:00 pm.
- **Utility Committee** – Ms. Denes reported the committee met tonight before the council meeting. The 2012 Chevrolet Colorado truck that was approved for purchase is no longer available at state bid pricing. Harrison Ford has agreed to beat state bid pricing for a 2012 Ford F-150 Super Cab pickup truck that is below state bid pricing. Motion by Denes, 2nd by Schneider to purchase a 2012 Ford F-150 from Harrison Ford at a price of \$19,500.00. Vote was taken, motion carried with all voting “yes”.
- **Main Street Board** - Ms. Denes reported that the minutes from the last Main Street Wellington meeting were given to council members at tonight’s meeting.
- **Ordinance Committee** – Mr. Wells reported that the Ordinance Committee will meet after the police committee meeting on June 4, 2012. The topic for that meeting will be consideration of a charter amendment on replacement of the mayor in the event of his/her being unable to serve. Mr. Wells is requesting all charter commission members be invited to this meeting.
- **Cable Commission** – Mr. Wells and Ms Dronsfield are hoping the cable commission will be meeting soon. Mr. Wells thanked Mark Baker for all his years of service to Grafton Cable. Mark is resigning from Grafton Cable after 17 years for employment elsewhere.

VII. ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

- **ORDINANCE NO 2012 -14**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 139.07 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO FEES FOR FINGERPRINTING AND BACKGROUND CHECKS
3rd Reading
Motion by Denes, 2nd by Maurer to approve the third reading of Ordinance No 2012-14.
Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”.
- **ORDINANCE NO 2012-15**
TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF BLUE CREEK WIND ENERGY SCHEDULE WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC. AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH REGARDING WIND GENERATED ENERGY PURCHASES
3rd Reading

Motion by Maurer, 2nd by Denes to approve the third reading of Ordinance No 2012-14. Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”.

- **ORDINANCE NO 2012-18 (revised)**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE COOPERATIVE SALT PURCHASING PROGRAM **2nd Reading**

Ms. Shaw informed council that the deadline for this contract was May 31, 2012. This ordinance needs to be approved before this date. Motion by Wells, 2nd by Schneider to suspend the rules approve the third reading of Ordinance No 2012-14 as an emergency to meet the contract deadline. Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”. Motion by Wells, 2nd by Schneider to approve the Ordinance No 2012-14 as an emergency. Vote was taken, motion passed with all voting “yes”.

- **ORDINANCE NO 2012-20**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF WELLINGTON’S INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS **1st Reading**

VIII. Old Business

- **Main Street Wellington** – Patti Young, representative from Main Street Wellington reported. She is the President this year. She reported on the successful Garden Gazebo Walk held this past weekend. Ms. Young complimented the Village on the handicap accessibility of the Town Hall. She received many compliments and favorable comments regarding this addition. Ms Young thanked the Village of Wellington workers who helped with the event. The Village Garage Sales will be held June 15th and 16th. The Farmers Market will open on June 15th. The Farmers Market will be held this year on Fridays from 4 – 7 pm.

IX. New Business

- **Resolution for Mark Baker** – Mayor O’Keefe presented Mark Baker a resolution of commendation in recognition for his work with Channel 12 and Grafton Cable.
- **Verizon Store Manager** – The manager, Jason Robinette of the Verizon store located in downtown Wellington, introduced himself to council. He has a fully trained staff at the store and is available for any help with Verizon cell phones.

- X. **Adjourn** Motion by Maurer, 2nd by Wells to adjourn. 8:20 p.m.

Clerk of Council

Mayor