

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
June 16, 2015**

Mayor Bowman opened the June 16, 2015 council meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Present as the regular meeting of council was Campbell, Long, Opelt, Sautter and Schuerman. Others present were Ed Wozniak, Vic Schuerman, Nicole Long, Adam Freeman, Virgil Scott Garwood, Orian Noggle, Nicole Shull, Joanne Busdeker, Don Pisula, Rebecca Pisula, Nick Pisula, Russell Eby, Gene Steele, Jeff Bourdo and the Clerk.

**Minutes:** Opelt moved and Long seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sautter moved and Opelt seconded to approve the bills in the amount of \$3,265.78. Motion passed unanimously.

**Jeff Bourdo:**

Jeff reported that mulch came in last week however; they have not been able to move the mulch over to the playground due to the ground being saturated from all the rain making it difficult to use the necessary equipment without creating ruts in the grass. Bourdo stated that they did talk to Tom Oberhouse of North Branch about borrowing a smaller and lighter piece of equipment when the ground dries up a little more.

Bourdo reported that the last two weekends at the street garage there have been a lot of trash in bags, paint cans and un-biodegradable materials being dumped. Bourdo stated they have not had any issues until two week ago. Bourdo stated he put a 2x2 reflective sign up that states "Brush and grass clippings only – NO Trash". Bourdo stated at one time there was an issue with individuals putting trash bags in the dumpster at the street garage and they have since locked it up to stop it from happening. There was further discussion on how they could stop this from continuing with the final determination of placing a camera to help identify who is dumping at the Street Garage.

**Mayor:**

Mayor reported that Todd Sheets dropped off some information on an event happening in Pemberville that will affect the Streets department directly. Mayor read the letter from Todd Sheets:

"As most of you are aware Pemberville will be host to some 300 plus bicyclists on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. The Pemberville Freedom Fire Department will be set up as a welcome center with food, entertainment and hometown hospitality being offered from 6:00am to 3:00pm. The Historical Society has been working diligently to showcase and promote our community, which include our businesses, historical sites and genuine Pemberville hospitality. We are asking for your support and help and making sure the area around the Fire Station, and including the back parking lot, side parking lot, and the grass along the river, Town Hall lawn and curbs, Mason Park and the police station all look their best. We're hoping that Village township personnel can spend a little time in these areas before June 25<sup>th</sup>. We would like to invite you and fellow citizens to stop in that day, GOBOA said we should see most of the riders in the morning. Thanks for your help."

Long asked if there was any progress with getting e-mail set up at the Street Garage. Clerk suggested that with the office soon to have new computers and software, could it be possible to have one of the current office computers rebuilt for the Street Department since the since their main use would be e-mail and product searches. Sautter asked how soon we were looking to purchase the new computers and software. The clerk replied that the utility department has reached their budgeted amount however, tax would not meet theirs until 2016. It was asked to see if money was available somewhere to allow it to happen yet this year at the next Finance Committee meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the cost for a new computer for the Street Department will looked at.

Mayor stated that he had contacted Mary Ann Gedderd to duplicate the banner that hangs here in Council Chambers that was originally given by the American Legion. Mary Ann and her husband own JM Design, a shop that use to be located here in Pemberville but is now located in Maumee. Mayor stated he had been

working with her to duplicate the banner that he will be presenting to the Mayor of Rodinghausen Germany, a gift to represent our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our sister city agreement, while he is there on vacation. Mayor stated that Mary Ann had donated her time and the banner and would like a picture of both Mayors holding the banner. Mayor stated that he will be sure to get her the picture and also sent her a thank you letter and gave her chocolates, thanking her.

Mayor stated that he spent \$150 of his contingency fund to become a member of the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce. Mayor explained that they have approximately 600 members and offer a wide distribution of information, provide a link to our web-site, broadcast any events happening in Pemberville, and willing to work with us and support us.

Mayor stated that we have a number of projects to be funded and will be meeting with a representative from the United States Department of Agricultural and Rural Development tomorrow at 10:00am to discuss a program known as the Community Facility Loans and Grants, primarily loans however, a possibility of a funding source for any of the upcoming projects.

Mayor stated that he has a letter from Carol Bailey that he would like to read into the minutes.

June 3, 2015

217 W Front St Box 568  
Pemberville, OH 43450

To the Honorable Mayor Gordon Bowman and fellow members of Pemberville Village Council,

This morning I was informed that the Masons of Pemberville addressed council last evening, Tuesday, June 2, 2015 with the intent of seeking approval to place a cornerstone on the elevator tower to be constructed later this year. I was also informed that Mr. Brian Myers told the council that I, Carol Bailey, was "happy" with the placement of a cornerstone by the Masons.

I write this letter to inform all the council members and Mayor Bowman that I never once said that I was "happy" with this plan. When I was approached by Mr. Myers about the idea, I stated that I personally have no authority to make this decision and that both the Historical Society Trustees and the Village Council would need to agree to such an offer. I also stated at that time that I would prefer that the Masons make a cash donation. Mr. Myers statements were based on his assumptions, not actual comments.

I was called this past Tuesday by Mr. Tom Cavendish and had an identical conversation with him telling him that I was not in a position to make such a decision. I also asked him for a monetary donation instead, which he rejected.

I was unaware that the Masons were attending the Council meeting last evening. If I had known, I would have been present to refute the statements made about my approval.

To be clear, I am adamantly opposed to the idea of a cornerstone to be laid by the Masons. I am indeed so opposed that if for some reason the Historical Society Trustees agree to the cornerstone placement, I will resign from the elevator project entirely.

I ask that this letter be read into the Council minutes so that my words and thoughts are recorded on this matter. I am available to answer any questions that you may have for me in regards to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A Bailey

A member from the Pemberville Masonic Lodge 516 was present and read a letter from Brian Myers and was asked to also be included into the minutes.

Mayor Bowman and Pemberville Village Council,

My apologies for not being present tonight, but I have 2 other commitments in addition to your meeting.

John Cavendish and I presented the Masonic cornerstone laying ceremony for the elevator project last meeting, Pemberville Lodge #516 was very encouraged by the unanimous positive response from Council. At the time, I was under the impression that Carol Bailey did not object to the said proposal. Since then, she has made it clear that she is not in favor of a cornerstone. In this vein, I have offered her my apologies for misrepresenting her feelings to Council.

The material reasons for her objection are there was no cornerstone in the plan, and she does not want the Mason's name on a cornerstone. Recall, the cornerstone's main inscription would be the Pemberville Opera House Elevator, date and any names desired by the Historical Society or Council. At the bottom in smaller print would be something to the effect of "Laid by the Grand Lodge of Ohio", date and perhaps the Masonic emblem. The Masons do not want their name on the donor plaque where all the other names of those who have gave will be placed. What we can give in addition to a \$800-\$1000 cornerstone that will adorn the structure, is a short, formal ceremony certain to bring many people and much attention to Pemberville's elevator project and the Opera House. After people have long forgotten the Masonic ceremony, the outcome of this event will be more people knowledgeable about the Pemberville Opera House and its new accessibility, something I believe everyone desires.

Some have suggested a cornerstone is not necessary since this is an addition to the town hall which already has a cornerstone. There are numerous examples of additions and even rededications having their own cornerstone or plaque as the situation warrants. Masonic cornerstone ceremonies are for any public, religious or Masonic structure.

In recent weeks, it seems there may be some questions to the integrity and purpose of the Masons Many of our members have been dedicated, community-minded citizens with memberships in other organizations and churches, harkening back to the names of Pember, Bierley and Hobart. More recent members like Dave Marsh, Bob & Dale Bruning and Roland Huss reflect the character of the Lodge. Masonry aims to make good men better through character development based on a belief in God, relief work and community service. Being Pemberville's oldest existing civic organization, and with a heritage as builders, it would be out pleasure to furnish, consecrate and lay this cornerstone for the people of Pemberville.

Sincerely,  
Brian Myers  
Cornerstone Committee Chair  
Pemberville Lodge 516

Mayor asked if the Masonic Lodge contributed to the elevator fund. Virgil Scott responded that a donation has been made or is going to be made but he is unaware of the amount. Mayor stated in order to complete the project it still needs about \$50,000 in contributions. Schuerman asked if it was the decision of the Historical Society or council for the laying of the cornerstone. Opelt replied he is not opposed to the Mason's offer and it is council that has the final say. Sautter asked if the cornerstone was part of the original plan because the conversation she had with Carol Bailey indicated it was not part of the original plan and therefore, to add the cornerstone now this far into the project would increase the cost with engineering. Mayor stated that the plans have already been completed and have already been turned over to the Wood County .Planning Commission who is overseeing the project. Mayor stated that they assist due to the federal dollars involved as well as the agency to oversee and maintain the federal dollars. Mayor stated that the plans are currently being reviewed by the planning commission and is scheduled to go out for bid in the next two weeks so any changes would have to be reengineered and start the process over and adding more cost. Long asked if we had any other opinions from the Historical Society on this aside from Mrs. Bailey. Mayor replied that the Historical Society was meeting tonight. Long stated he would like to know what their feelings and thoughts of this are. There was further discussion on possibilities of meeting with all parties and come up with a compromise that works for both sides. Mayor stated this project is a Historical Society project from the very beginning; they planned it, designed it, raised funds for it, did everything for it, it is their project, it is not the Mason's project, it is the Historical Society's project and it is a gift from the Historical Society to the Village of Pemberville, and if the Masons are not going to help fund that, or provide some financial resources to complete the project, where do they fit in? Mayor stated that they weren't there at the very beginning, they came in at the end and wanted to put their name on it and it isn't their project. Mayor stated there is nothing wrong with the Mason's they do great work but in this particular instance they were not part of the whole development. The planning, design, funding is the Historical Society that has done that for the benefit of the village. Schuerman asked the Mayor if it would have to be reengineered at additional expense, Mayor responded yes, the plans have already been submitted to the planning commission and is soon to go out to bid. Campbell agreed it should have been presented during the planning stage. However, that does not mean there cannot be other things done that don't include this. Sautter asked council if they could all agree that the information presented to them last week was not complete information and asked if they couldn't get Carol Bailey, Brian Myers, members of the Historical Society and Mason's that want to come to a room and give all the facts in one sitting. Sautter feels there are a lot more questions than answers right now and maybe come to a compromise at that time. Schuerman asked Mr. Scott if there was something else the Masons could do besides a cornerstone. Mr. Scott answered by stating he has not yet met with Mr. Myers, that is was brought up in lodge to donate to the project and then it was also thought then, that Masonic traditions is to lay cornerstones and ask to put

their name out there as a member of the community. What they want to do is present different avenues and gifts. Schuerman asked if there was something they could do within the construction, such as painting and get recognition that way. Mr. Scott stated he used to be a member of the Historical Society and built the fire escape out back of town hall and knows Carol Bailey and is not sure what they could do to make it right other than apologize and back out. Mayor and Opelt agree with Sautter that all need to meet. Opelt stresses this is a community and we should have that at first thought. Mayor stated that a special meeting between both parties will be July 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Opera House.

Clerk placed Cintas t-shirt flyers in council folders if anyone is interested please let the clerk know as soon as possible.

**Campbell:**

Campbell reminded council that Ed Hunt from CodeRed will be present at the next council meeting scheduled July 7<sup>th</sup> to demonstrate and answer any questions.

Campbell stated that Doug Ruck contacted him about fixing the sandstone curb that was damaged when a dumpster was delivered on Main St. Campbell stated that there is about 18" of damage on both sides of the street and felt the Street Department could handle the repair. Campbell stated that Mr. Ruck will donate back to the village to compensate for the damaged curbs. Campbell asked that an amount is determined tonight so Mr. Ruck can close out the estate. It was decided that the amount used when assessing other properties of \$135 an hour times the amount of time it takes to complete the repair will be the amount Mr. Ruck will be asked to compensate to the village for the curb repair.

**Long:**

Long stated that the time for the Planning Commission meeting has been moved to 7:30pm instead of 7:00pm.

Long reported that BPA and discussed the status of the plans for the South Water Plant and currently EPA is holding the plans as they are reviewing them.

Long stated that there will be an announcement coming soon from the Water Superintendent for line flushing. Long stated there was also discussion on placing of catch basins during the 105 project. Long stated there was discussion on how to tie the new annexed CountyLine facility into our facility and the upcoming Eastwood line.

**Opelt:**

Opelt asked if there was any development on Oberhouse. Long stated Oberhouse was waiting to hear back from council. Sautter explained that the Mayor is looking at a grant opportunity that could be combined with other projects. Mayor stated that based on our current Ordinance and funding that is does not look possible. However, Mayor is currently looking at other avenues. There was further discussion on the request of proposed financial assistance with utilities up to the subdivision with the concept taken back to finance committee.

Opelt reported on the pool liner fundraiser and that the pool will be fifty years old next year and that we are currently trying to raise \$62,000 for a pool liner. Opelt reported that the campaign has raised approximately \$4860 so far and has verbal amounts that he feels should be around \$10,000. Opelt stated that the swim team and family are scheduled to do a fundraiser on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> and will be an all-day event with parents starting with a car wash, bake sale, lap-athon at the pool with kids earning money for the number of laps and finally end the day with movie night in the pool. Opelt stated they would like to have the Shelter House that day if it is not already taken. Opelt would also like to close off a part of Memorial Drive for these projects. Opelt stated that the kids of the swim team have come up with some really good ideas. Opelt moved to ask that council support the swim team and their parents and closing of Memorial Drive for the all-day fundraiser Schuerman seconded, Motion passed unanimously.

**Schuerman:**

Schuerman reported that the Parks & Rec committee met yesterday and the pool is up and running smoothly and water temperature is 80 degrees.

Schuerman asked Jeff Bourdo about picking up a few piles of brush laying around town. Campbell stated that brush pick is not until August however, he is considering a special pick-up.

Schuerman stated that her neighbor who lives caddy corner behind her is complaining of a yard beside her with overgrown trees and weeds that are becoming a nuisance and would like something done. Mayor stated he did speak to John Lockard about cutting that back off the village right-of-way. It was further discussed that areas around town need to have their yards cleaned up and that the first step should be to notify those in writing that things need to be cleaned up. Mayor stated that he will write the letters if someone could give him a list of those needing addressed and him and Chief Darling will get them delivered.

**Guests:**

Residents on Hickory St was told they had to ask council for permission to put up a mailbox on village right-of-way. It was determined that residents on a mailing route, have to have a mailbox or pay for a post office box. Residents that are not on a rural route receive a post office box at no cost unless they choose to get a larger box. With the agreement from all of council to allow those who live on a rural route can place a mail box if they so choose.

Don Pisula lives on W. College with an alleyway the length of his lot behind his garage. They paved a portion in the late 90's and had the choice to go further but choose not to and should have. The house by them did not have trees at the time. Before the house was sold they didn't have these trees up. Once sold the person that bought the house, when cutting his grass would come out half way into their yard with his blades down and make little circles onto Mr. Pisulas' property. That's when Mr. Pisula stated he decided to do something to close off the yard and put up these arborvitaes. When they purchased the arborvitaes it said the maximum width at the bottom would be five feet, so they put them two and a half feet onto their property. Pisula stated that he brought to the Mayor about putting what he considers junk in the alleyway and what he was trying to get to is if the Mayor received an answer from these individuals. Mayor stated he spoke to the Chief about it and asked him if he went and visited them. Chief responded that he did visit the area but was not sure what or where the concern was. Don Pisula responded it was in the alleyway. Chief stated he was not familiar with the area back of there and then got tied up with other things. Don Pisula asked Chief if he knew Don Melcher, Chief responded no. Pisula stated he owns the property next to the area of concern. Pisula stated Melcher had the property surveyed because he was concerned the trees were encroaching onto his property and there is a stake that that shows the property. Don Pisula stated that since he had last spoke to the Mayor, the individual in question has now put up a wooden pallet type fence and extended her garden with landscaping ties into the alleyway and John, the town electrician will need to be able to get down there periodically and the only way to get back there now is through his property and that's not going to happen. Nick Pisula stated to the Chief that basically all the garages along there belonging to Maple St are on the alleyway, so anything behind the garage is considered in the alley. Chief stated that what he assumed he was looking for was a bunch of trash in bags and stuff like that and wasn't sure what he was really looking for. Mayor stated the particular property is 430 Maple and the building behind the house is over the property line by one foot onto the alleyway and they have piled some old fencing, wire, fence post and other things and Pisulas have asked for it to be removed. Mayor stated he thought he made that clear to Chief, it's there, it needs to be removed and thought the Chief was going to take care of it and it didn't get done and he apologizes. Chief stated he will go over in the morning. Mayor stated he did have a problem with the trees being so big and encroaching on village property. Mayor stated to Don Pisula that he thought the trees would not grow beyond five feet and now they are fifteen feet. Don Pisula stated to the Mayor that he would trim the trees when they move their buildings.

Nick Pisula stated that with the diligent and continued effort of following the Ordinance for grass clippings and trash at the street garage, he would like to see it applied to all of Pemberville and to make sure the

Ordinance clarifies or consider changing them if need be to clarify. Nick Pisula stated that when it does get dumped warn them, then fine them; please and thank you do not work for Pemberville residents. Sautter asked if he is seeing this around town and if so where cause she has not seen it. Nick Pisula stated he has not, he was just going by what he has read in the prior minutes and felt it to be an ongoing issue and doesn't want to see it get out of hand. Pisula stated there is a home on Schuerman that is foreclosed on and bank owned, it use to be the Komives property and it has grass real tall. Pisula stated it does show they are mowing but just bare minimum around the property. Pisula stated that she would like to see that if there is any grant money to put it throughout Pemberville not the subdivision. Pisula stated Mr. Oberhouse is doing this as a business and is going to make money on it, and needs to put his own money into it. Pisula continued that if the village wants to expand and help him expand then maybe he should annex.

Gene Steele stated that he really didn't have an agenda other than the potential flood waters we got coming next week with this storm they got in Texas and feels they should get together and have a tentative plan established, there is no plan established at the moment in case we have a flooding issue.

Mr. Steele stated that in regards to the Oberhouse development down here, the pool needs \$50,000, the Opera House needs \$50,000, we need money for all this other stuff yet you want to donate time to find grants for Oberhouse so he can make a buck on his little development. Mayor responded no, that is not true. There was much further discussion about what would, could, should or should not be done for the subdivision's starting point. There was no resolution just a lot of opinions.

Joanne Busdeker asked about the railroad crossing and if they were going to be fixed. Mayor stated that his conversation with a representative from CSX stated that Pemberville is on the schedule to be rebuilt this summer with a tentative date of July 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> and will be doing the Pemberville Rd crossing, and State Route 105 crossing.

Mayor Bowman adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.