

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
December 2, 2014**

Mayor Bowman opened the December 2, 2014 council meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Present at the regular meeting of council was Rothenbuhler, Campbell, Long, Opelt, Sautter and Schuerman. Others present were Jeff Bourdo, Ed Wozniak, Joanne Busdeker, Travis Ford, and the clerk.

**Minutes:** Opelt moved and Long seconded to approve the November 18, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rothenbuhler moved and Sautter seconded to approve the bills in the amount of \$9,341.83. Motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE 1531 – 2015 ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT POSTIONS, DEFINING DUTIES AND PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION THEREOF. – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading**

Sautter moved and Rothenbuhler seconded to amend by substitution. Motion passed unanimously.

Rothenbuhler moved and Sautter seconded to pass Ordinance 1531. Motion passed 4/7 vote. Rothenbuhler, Campbell and Sautter vote yes. Long, Opelt and Schuerman vote no. Tie vote, Mayor votes yes.

**Mayor:**

Mayor stated we had a successful weekend with the Christmas in the Village.

Mayor stated that the Village Office Christmas potluck lunch is scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>. Mayor extended the invitation to Council and spouses.

**Rothenbuhler:**

Rothenbuhler explained that Finance Committee met tonight and went over appropriations for twenty fifteen (2015). Rothenbuhler stated that there are some concerns over the General Fund expenditures and making sure we are appropriately funding the General Fund. Rothenbuhler explained as the cost of government continues to go up and we see our income revenue being stagnant at best, even going down a little bit, we are keeping a close eye on that and looking for any possible way to recover funds into the General Fund. Rothenbuhler stated there is more to come with ongoing conversations.

Rothenbuhler stated that Finance will talk a lot more in depth about Permanent Appropriations during the Finance meetings in January. Rothenbuhler expects to have at least two, if not three Finance meetings in January and will go through Permanent Appropriations' line by line.

**Campbell:**

Campbell stated that leaf pick-up is continuing and feels they are ahead of the game. Campbell stated any questions can be directed to Jeff Bourdo, the Street Superintendent who is present tonight.

Campbell stated that with the recent windstorm, Town Hall lost quite a few shingles off the roof and therefore, will need to be replaced. Campbell stated that they are currently gathering quotes for a new roof and should have them to present to council at the next meeting. Campbell explained that there will be some significant upgrades and flashing that currently does not exist but will be sticking with the asphalt shingles.

**Long:**

Long stated that BPA met last night and most of the conversation was about NWWSD and the outstanding invoice. Long explained that the conversation was to make sure those who were attending tomorrow night's meeting were on the same page.

Long stated BPA talked about appropriations that were submitted from the different departments and made some adjustments to their submissions accordingly.

Long explained that the Zoning Committee met and was hoping to have seen engineer drawings for the proposed Pembergrove subdivision but have not seen them yet. Long stated that Mr. Oberhouse' engineer did contact Long with hopes to have the drawings in hand by next meeting. Long stated that although the committee would like to have the drawings in hand two weeks ahead of a meeting to review the plans, Long does not anticipate any formal plan to review until January meeting.

Long stated that the Zoning Committee is going to benchmark some of the zoning permit rates that we currently have and see if we are in-line, need updated, etc.

### **Opelt:**

Opelt reported that there is still an ongoing issue regarding cats. Opelt stated that he met with Chief Darling briefly to try and come up with something they can maybe enforce before they bring a proposal to council. Opelt stated that he will be setting up a meeting soon and has numerous people wanting to speak. Opelt is hoping to come up with a proposal to help alleviate the problem and solves the issue for what is best for both sides. Opelt explained that all animals are confined but cats. Opelt feels that those who have cats should keep them in their own yard or keep them confined. Opelt suggested the possibility of individuals to license their cats as well as fine those who do not follow the set rules once in place. He also suggested to set up a fund and the monies collected from the license and fines be used for the expenditures for spaying and neutering of stray cats and any other expenses the issue may arise. Opelt expressed that he is open to any and all suggestions.

### **Schuerman:**

Schuerman thanked the Street department for picking up leaves.

Schuerman expressed that the Lighted Christmas Parade was absolutely wonderful. Schuerman suggested sending a card to Todd Sheets at Beeker General Store for all their hard work. Mayor elaborated that is was a great success and that the 2015 Lighted Christmas Parade has already been scheduled for November 29' 2015. Opelt stated that he also had friends from other areas that came and enjoyed the parade.

### **Other:**

Jeff Bourdo stated they are all caught up with leaf pick-up with just a few more streets needing curbs cleaned up. Bourdo explained this season did not get off to a good start with the leaf machine breaking down twice and then the first snow fall we received put them a few days behind schedule but was able to get caught up once the machine was fixed and weather permitted.

Bourdo stated that we received our first load of salt of thirty plus tons. Bourdo explained that prices went through the roof compared to last year's price of less than forty dollars a ton. Bourdo stated the quotes began at \$160 a ton and went down to \$130 a ton. Bourdo explained that the contractor never got back with us so we went through Wood County which purchased salt through the State of Ohio from a foreign country for a lot of these little towns and townships and therefore, secured a price at \$110 a ton. Bourdo explained we have seventy-five ton available to us and that we pay as we use it, we are not required to purchase all seventy-five ton. Bourdo stated that once leaf pick-up is completed then the trucks will be ready for snow removal. Opelt asked on average how much salt do we use during a winter season? Bourdo explained that in the last twenty-five years he has been here last year was the most with over sixty ton (60). However, on average Bourdo stated it is roughly fifty ton a season and that it all depends. Some years may be less some may be more. Opelt asked what the average amount a truck could hold. Bourdo stated that the smaller truck could hold two to three tons of salt and the large truck could hold approximately eight or nine tons. Long asked Bourdo how much salt is used during one event. Bourdo explained some events may use none while others may use three to four tons. Opelt asked Bourdo if the cars were removed in a timely manner last year during snow removal. Bourdo replied that last year went very well and cars were moved in a timely manner.

Rothenbuhler stated that the Finance Committee will be looking at putting money aside to replace some of the much older equipment. Campbell asked Bourdo if there would be a benefit to the Village if they were to

purchase a diesel. Bourdo replied with a yes. Sautter explained that Wood County Engineering had applied for a Diesel Admissions Reduction Grant in the past and after speaking about it at the Finance meeting Sautter wonders if this would be something to look into. Sautter explained this would get the village eighty percent back on the purchase of the vehicle and is not sure if it would apply to us because of the fuel. Sautter stated this is something worth looking into and will get more information.

Long stated that Streets and Bridges asked Mr. Bourdo to attend the first meeting each month just as a representative of his department.

Mayor stated that the police activity report has been distributed. Mayor commented that the ATV question has been resolved. Mayor explained that there are some gray areas in the Ohio Revised Code that allows agricultural use to be non-licensed. Mayor stated that the use of the ATV possibly goes beyond the golf cart Ordinance we currently have in place. Mayor stated Chief Darling has spoken with the individual about having the proper lighting, safety equipment, and a license plate on the ATV. Chief explained that the individual has complied and will be properly licensed in the village. Mayor stated the individual is young and is just getting started in life and we want to make it possible for him to get to work without putting barriers on him.

Mayor announced that the Dog Warden will be here at Town Hall in the council chambers January 21<sup>st</sup> 2015, from 1pm to 4pm for those who would like to get dog license for their dog.

Mayor stated the Chief spoke to those at the Senior Center about area scams and counterfeit money and what to watch for. Schuerman asked Chief about the counterfeit money and if this is something coming to the same place and should individuals be looking out for it. Chief explained it was an isolated incident that was more than likely picked up at a store in Toledo. Chief spoke to the individual that spent the counterfeit money to make them aware. Chief stated no charges were filed and secret service has been notified.

Resident Travis Ford distributed a letter and proposal for Eastwood Elementary if and when it becomes vacant.

As many of you know, I didn't grow up in Pemberville. However, since moving here in August of 2001, I have fallen in love with the community and all it has to offer.

Unfortunately, since 2001, I have seen Pemberville change and lose its most significant source of income (Modine Manufacturing), a bar (Cherry's), a restaurant (Front Street Café), and now a school. Despite these losses, the village has gained a coffee shop, a Subway, and a Dollar General. Even through an economic recession, Pemberville survived and continues to be a wonderful place to live!

My concern today comes because of the recent battle that was lost to the Eastwood School Board. I previously lived in a village that lost its school and it destroyed the community. As we know, any community that loses its school suffers.

The vision and proposal in front of you is just that, nothing more, and I'm not asking you to act tonight. I recognize that it will be a major undertaking, come with a significant amount of work, and will be costly. However, if we don't invest in the community now, not doing anything will come at a greater cost.

Over the years, I've heard several community elders share how the Pemberville Pool was completed with volunteer labor and donations. I've found this to be remarkable and inspiring! Is it possible for the same community to support a similar project? Finally, here are examples of other communities who have converted schools to community centers:

[http://www.register-herald.com/news/old-school-to-be-converted-into-hub-for-community-arts/article\\_77876ad0-1683-5389-8388-8e7a5660812f.html?mode=jgm](http://www.register-herald.com/news/old-school-to-be-converted-into-hub-for-community-arts/article_77876ad0-1683-5389-8388-8e7a5660812f.html?mode=jgm)

<http://www.whio.com/news/news/old-school-building-converted-to-township-center/nH6DK/>

Respectfully Submitted,

Travis S. Ford

### **Pemberville Community Center Vision**

- Purchase or work with school board to assume responsibility of the former Pemberville Elementary School
- Hire an outside Parks and Recreation Director that would assure continued use of not just the Pemberville Community Center but the pool and other parks.

#### **The Opportunities and Benefits:**

- The Pemberville Community Center is an investment that would bring people together while promoting the Village of Pemberville.
- The Pemberville Community Center would be used by the Boy Scouts, Church Groups, Historical Society and other community organizations.
- Organized events such as basketball leagues, volleyball games, dances, fitness, etc...
- The current village offices and police department would relocate to the Pemberville Community Center. This would allow for the continued improvements of the Opera House. Having the police department onsite would assure a safe and family friendly environment.

#### **The benefits of employing a Parks and Recreation Director:**

- Assure that the facility and pool is managed fairly, wisely and appropriately
- Would seek grants for programming, equipment, and for the upkeep of the Pemberville Community Center and pool
- Would work with PIMA and other community groups in promoting the Village of Pemberville

#### **Funding:**

- I truly believe that if the public is educated about the benefits, it could be supported with a levy.
- Before asking for tax money, consider hiring a consultant; promote the project through marketing, surveying residents, and public meetings.

Mayor pointed out that there are other people in the community who are trying to think long range, including the newly formed establishment of The Eastwood Community Improvement Corporation. Mayor explained that they identify projects they can acquire funding for, either through grants or many other means that work to the benefit of the entire Eastwood District. Mayor stated certainly the water system here in Pemberville is an area of concern as well as the school building when and if it becomes available. Mayor expressed to Mr. Ford, he is thinking right with the times, thinking ahead and looking at the future and this establishment could be something to consider. It's a group that can work beyond just the limits of Pemberville; it can work for the whole Eastwood Community.

Mr. Ford also wanted to point out that while he was out walking his dog behind the business district and along the river, from the bridge down to the bank is completely disgusting were individuals are not cleaning up after their dogs. Opelt stated that there is an Ordinance pertaining to dogs and cleaning up after them and that citations may have to be issued if it continues.

Mr. Ford thanked council for their time.

Campbell stated he had two more items he would like to mention. First, he received a complaint about sandwich boards on the street. Campbell stated he grabbed his camera and walked down Front Street to the vicinity of Beeker's General Store around 10:30 pm Saturday. Campbell stated there was a black and a white sandwich board sitting in the street, one in one parking spot, one in another, no cars parked there, nothing on the signs and not pulled off the street. Campbell asked what they were doing to address this issue. Campbell stated you take a sandwich board, put in the road, in a parking space, blocking a parking space, with nothing on the sign. Sautter asked what the purpose was for this. Opelt responded that he believes they are advertising for their place to be open but they are not open at that moment. Campbell stated that he took pictures of each of the signs and their closing hours. Campbell just wants to know if there is a solution to this

issue and that if it's going to be allowed to at least take them off the street. Opelt stated that once they close the signs should be removed from the street and stored where they store them and if it continues then the police should be contacted as they have the authority to handle the situation. Mayor stated to Campbell that if he gives him the pictures he will go and talk to the business. Campbell expressed that sandwich board signs are prohibited per the Zoning Ordinance. Opelt asked if we really want to criticize our businesses when we have empty storefronts, that if we had every storefront active generating all kinds of business through town then he would say enforce the policy. Campbell stated that if they are going to have sandwich boards than maybe the Ordinance should be evaluated and corrected to reflect. Long asked if there was a request. Sautter responded yes, they would like for Planning Commission to review the area with businesses and signage.

Second, Campbell would like to know if someone looked into County Line Co-op addition and if it was contiguous with Pemberville. Mayor replied yes it is he spoke with the auditor today. Mayor explained that the property that is owned by the Freedom Township Trustees borders directly on the property owned by County-Line Co-op. The property that is owned by the Freedom Township Trustees is within the village limits. Therefore, we have a contiguous line that would require, based on our Ordinance, that they annex to the Village in order to supply them with utilities.

Mayor Bowman adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.