

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING
January 19, 2021**

Mayor Bailey opened the January 19, 2021 virtual Zoom Council meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Present at the regular meeting of Council were Rahe, Angel, Jacobs, Long, Madaras, and St. Louis. Others present were, Bob Kuhlman, Gene Steele, Eric Campbell, Ed Wozniak, and the Clerk.

Minutes: Jacobs moved and Angel seconded to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2020, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Long moved and Rahe seconded to approve the bills for \$11,830.19. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Reports:

Rahe:

Finance: Rahe stated finance met and discussed the 2021 Permanent Appropriations. Rahe stated there will be a special meeting Tuesday, January 26th at 6pm to finalize Permanent Appropriations for 2021.

Personnel: Rahe stated there are two holidays that fall on a weekend this year. According to the personnel handbook, it states that when a holiday falls on the weekend, Council is to decide whether to recognize the Friday before of the Monday after. Rahe stated Personnel discussed and have decided that July 4th will be recognized on Monday, July 5th and Christmas Day will be recognized on Monday, December 27th.

Rahe stated that at the last meeting, Mayor stated she and the Zoning Inspector would be reviewing and potentially amending an Ordinance and asked Council for comment. At the request of Gene Steele, Sue read into the minutes a letter he wrote with regards to that meeting.

"I am considering filing charges against Mayor Bailey for muting me during the last Council meeting. She asked for others to chime in, I was given permission, then she told me it was not up for argument, then muted me.

The Council meeting exist for the purpose of argument and exchange of ideas.

Her conduct and action is a violation of the State law. And was disheartening to not have one Council person speak up denouncing the Mayor's spurious conduct towards me.

I request as Council President you share my thoughts and reasoning in regards to the people's right to disagree with their Government at every level. I further request that it be a part of the next Council meeting that my thoughts are read into the record and that each Council member comments on this matter. Gene Steele, Pemberville, Ohio 43450."

Rahe stated a resident is upset with how things were handled and would like Councils thoughts. Rahe stated she tried to think back to what transpired when that happened however, did not realize Steele was muted. Rahe stated the resident has a legitimate concern and should have been allowed the opportunity to speak. Rahe stated in this type of environment, Council needs to be considerate and conscious of residents and making sure they are being heard. Rahe stated Steele has requested comment from all members of Council.

Long agrees with Rahe and was not aware of the muting. Long stated that when in person meetings took place, there was a time when the declaration was that residents, guests, and those who have additional comment, would be given a particular window of time to speak and if that is still the intent, then Council needs to declare that and follow that so everyone is aware of when that open audience comes into play and no confusion on what is or is not muted.

Jacobs stated he was in agreement with Long and that everyone has the right to speak here. Jacobs stated the structure organization of the meeting is important and is not sure if it is clear to all. Jacobs stated he agrees with Rahe and Long, that at that particular time he did not realize Steele was muted, which could be the reason no one commented on it.

Angel stated there are rules in which the elected officials speak at a specific time and residents are allotted a specific time to speak. Angel stated that if a meeting were in person and someone began to yell at each other, Council would do what they could to settle the situation and meeting. Angel stated that muting may

be the only way it can be handled in this format. Angel stated he does agree that everyone has the right to speak in the format allotted.

Mayor responded stating she broke her own rule by allowing a guest to speak outside of the original decorum to keep order. Mayor stated that at that time, when she asked for further comment, she was essentially addressing Council but did call on Steele. However, Mayor stated she was not expecting to have a combative discussion with Steele at that time. Mayor stated she allowed Steele to speak his piece but when he stopped speaking she stated she was not going to proceed or entertain any arguments. Mayor stated there was no Ordinance on the table, she stated it was an informational statement making Council aware that this would be coming up in the future for further discussion. Mayor stated that had this meeting taken place in person she would have utilized her right to use the gavel. Mayor stated right or wrong, she felt Steele was out of order. Mayor apologized to Steele if she offended him, it was not her intent. Mayor stated her intent was to bring order which is her role in this forum. In addition, Mayor apologized to anyone else she may have offended.

Angel:

Street & Sidewalks: Angel stated that the Street Committee met and discussed the sidewalk at the Depot. Angel stated the committee will be moving forward on the installation of sidewalks at the Depot but does not have anything official to provide at this time.

Safety Committee: Angel stated the Safety Committee met and discussed speeders during school hours. Angel stated patrolling of the area will increase to help reduce the amount of speeding vehicles seen during these times. Rahe stated she had noticed the officers patrolling the area much earlier.

Jacobs:

Nothing to report.

Long:

BPA: Long stated BPA is currently meeting and has nothing to report at this time.

Planning Commission: Long stated Planning Commission is scheduled to meet tomorrow evening on Zoom.

Madaras:

Nothing to report. Madaras did ask about the trash receptacles along the trail and the dumpster at the pool area. Madaras thanked the Street Department for trimming of the trees along the walking trail.

St. Louis:

Park and Recreation: St. Louis stated Park and Rec met and discussed the pool and maintenance.

St. Louis stated that after long consideration he has decided to resign from his seat on Council. St. Louis stated he appreciated the opportunity to work with everyone but feels at this time he needs to take a step back. Mayor thanked St. Louis for his service.

Mayor:

Mayor spoke briefly on the police report. Mayor offered her condolences to the family of Officer Stalker, who lost his life in the line of duty last night.

Code Red: Mayor stated St. Louis was managing the Code Red system and with his resignation, someone will need to take his place.

Mayor stated that Hirzel gift boxes have been delivered and if Council has not received theirs yet to make arrangements to pick up.

Oberhouse Park: Mayor stated she spoke with the Street Dept regarding the upkeep of Oberhouse Park. Mayor stated that starting as early as they can, they will mow just a pathway into the park and leave the rest grow up naturally. Mayor stated if a tree should happen to fall across the mowed pathway, the tree will be cut and moved aside. Mayor stated she would like to see how this goes this year in addition to seeing if anyone is even utilizes Oberhouse Park.

Mayor stated the public restrooms will remain open through the downtown garage sale and close until the end of March.

Mayor stated the dentist office on College Ave. is now owned by the bank. .However, the IRS does have 160 days to make claim on the property due to outstanding tax debt.

Guests:

Mayor Bailey adjourned the meeting at 8:11 P.M.