

**Record of Proceedings for the Village of Aquilla
April 11th, 2017
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Council members present: Mr. Glover, Ms. Bennington, Mr. Eging, Mr. Vodicka, Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Locher

Others Present: Fiscal Officer Ms. Vodicka, Zoning Inspector Jenkins, Residents Danny Reed, Boyd Rider, Chuck Hendricks, Jr., Kay Hendricks and Hugh Finnerty.

Mayor Richard Wolfe presiding. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting held on March 14, 2017 were reviewed. Motion by Ms. Mitchell to approve the minutes as presented; second by Mr. Glover. Roll call vote all yes.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following bills for March were presented for payment:

Check #	Vendor / Payee	Amount
2526	OPERS	\$209.97
2527	Home Depot	\$19.92
2528	Illuminating Company	\$631.34
2529	GCDWR	\$96.88
2530	Windstream Western Reserve Telephone	\$98.97
2531	United States Treasury	\$100.27
2532	Treasurer of State	\$275.50
	Total Payments:	\$1,432.85

- Motion by Mr. Locher, second by Ms. Mitchell to pay bills. Roll call vote all yes.
- Council also received the bank statement as of March 31, 2017 showing a balance of \$95,687.61
- Council also received the following financial reports:

- UAN reconciliation balance as of March 31, 2017 is \$95,687.61
- Purchase orders: 19-2017 – 24-2017 totaling \$14,029.18
- UAN March receipt list totaling \$17,296.99
- UAN March payment list totaling \$4,474.51
- UAN fund status report as of 3/31/17: 5 funds totaling \$95,687.61

- Motion was made by Mr. Vodicka to accept financial reports as presented; second by Ms. Bennington.
Roll call vote: all yes.

MISC. UPDATES:

- Council received the current Street Lighting Resolution for review.
- UAN Computer will be replaced in May/June; the Auditor of State is donating the old one to the Village.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ ZONING UPDATE:

-222 Turner: Five Village residents were in attendance to express their concern about the health and safety issues surrounding the abandoned construction project that was started on the lot. The footers have filled with water causing a drainage issue on Mr. Reed's property which is adjacent to the lot. Inspector Jenkins and Mayor Wolfe stated that they, along with Council, are very concerned about the situation as well, but can do nothing until the zoning permit expires on 4/18/17, adding that stepping onto the property would be trespassing. Mayor Wolfe and Inspector Jenkins met with Village Solicitor Jim Gillette regarding several properties in the Village that are in violation; they explained to those in attendance that their hands are tied, and Council must go through legal channels to rectify the situation. Ms. Bennington supported the statement, giving an account of the issues with

the property next to her home, saying that it has been frustrating but it is the only recourse. She offered to call the Health Department and relay the information obtained to Mr. Reed. Mayor Wolfe asked the residents to call him or Mr. Jenkins if there is any activity on the property. Mr. Reed was given mosquito retardant treatment discs to curb mosquito breeding in standing water. Zoning Inspector Jenkins will continue to follow-up with Solicitor Gillette, and has provided the Solicitor with photos of the properties that are in violation of Village Ordinances as determined by Inspector Jenkins and Council.

MISC. DISCUSSION

Ms. Bennington attended the County Commissioner's meeting on 3/21/17 regarding grant monies available for properties in distressed or lower income areas in Geauga County. She reported that The Village does not qualify for funding unless The Village holds the title to the property in need of improvement. She inquired about funding for improvement of the Village Baseball Field; she was told that the Village would conditionally qualify pending an income survey; the application deadline is April 24th. If granted, the application would have to be renewed every 5 years. She has obtained one estimate from Mr. McCaskey, and is awaiting a second estimate from another company.

Ms. Bennington also inquired about money available for roads; she was told this grant money does not cover road improvement. There is a total of \$280K available for Geauga County projects over 2 years; Mayor Wolfe suggested that Council move forward with the survey to ensure qualification, proceeding with the next step if the Village qualifies.

Ms. Bennington attended the Baseball Association meeting on 3/19/17 to represent the interests of the Village for the upcoming season.

Mr. Eging suggested that Council consider the requirement of a \$10,000 - \$20,000 bond to be submitted along with future building permits in the Village to avoid property owners abandoning building projects. Inspector Jenkins will contact Solicitor Gillette to discuss the possibility of a new Zoning Ordinance that would reflect the requirement.

Mr. Locher discussed the potential savings that could be obtained by converting the existing street lights to LED. He distributed an article that referred to Chardon's partial conversion. He indicated that the price per unit may be reduced, and that First Energy would maintain the lights after installation. He counted 35 street lights in the Village, and related the following information: Current street light bulb longevity averages 3-4 years, LED averages 10 years; replacement cost would be recovered in approx. 3.5 years (assuming \$325 ea., total \$11,390); average savings per year after cost recovery period would be approx. \$3,345. After brief discussion, Mr. Locher offered to obtain more specific information regarding replacement pricing, etc. Mrs. Vodicka referred to the distributed copy of the current Street Lighting Resolution (due to renew this year), indicating that it would likely have to be re-worked to include verbiage that would allow the usage of funds for hardware, not just electric service.

There being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Mr. Vodicka, second by Ms. Mitchell, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Amy Vodicka, Fiscal Officer

Mayor Richard Wolfe