

EP COUNCIL 3/13/23 85 N. MARKET STREET 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order, present was Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, Mr. Runnion, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Walker. Also present was Interim Village Manager/Finance Director Traci Spratt, Police Chief Jim Brown, Fire Chief Keith Drabick, Clerk Misti Martin, Law Director David Powers, W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe, Street Superintendent Steve Baird, BZ Inspector CH McCutcheon. The minutes of the 2/27 regular meeting and special meeting of 3/9 were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Runnion. The February department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Runnion, seconded by Dr. Rocco. There were no agenda items, Clerk's or Law Directors or Street reports.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway stated the contaminated dirt has finally begun being removed from the derailment site to an EPA regulated facility in Indiana, the clean up will be going on for some time. One side of the track is still torn up and will be for a while. He said there has been six million gallons of contaminated water hauled off site as of today. He said the health clinic is still open and asked that anyone who has any signs/symptoms to please go there so everything can be documented. Finally, he stated there are also mental health services available and they are working on a potential grant that starts at 90 days and will hopefully morph into a year long grant for additional mental health services in the Village.

MANAGER: Interim Manager Traci Spratt stated Rainbow Dreamland will be closed until further notice for removal of mulch, cleaning and installation of new mulch as well as the tennis courts.

PARK/REC/CEM: Dr. Rocco stated there was a Park Board meeting on Wednesday at the Municipal Building. To the residents she then stated that she was sorry that we are all going through this situation, it hasn't been easy for anyone, there are a lot of unanswered questions and its scary but that she is proud of our community for taking the current situation and trying to turn it into a positive. She said we need to unite as a community, we are all raising families here and we need to stick together and hold the railroad accountable and also that everyone's feelings are completely valid. She said Council wants to do what is best for the community. Finally she thanked everyone in the Village for all they have done throughout this ordeal and asked that everyone try to set the negativity aside and come together with them.

DEV/FIN: Ms. May stated she has been working trying to get some things in order for when we are finally able to switch over to recovery mode. She said as information becomes available that will be shared with the community.

UTILITY: Mr. Simpson stated he gave everyone a timeline of events that he had written up. W/WW Superintendent Scott said there were no changes (or detections) within the municipal water system since last council meeting, he said he held an open house at the Water Plant on March 4. He stated he has two children and four of his employees live here and they are all using the water as they always have. He sampling will continue weekly with the EPA, NS, and his crew. Mr. Simpson added he spoke with ODNR a week ago and that where Bull Run enters into the north fork of the Little Beaver water way there are fish and aquatic life in the area.

SAFETY: Mr. Povenski deferred to the Chief for his report. Chief Brown shifts are back to normal and that they do still have additional security requests coming in. He said he appreciates all of the support from Council and the community. He thanked the residents for the moral support, kind words and cards they have received. Chief Drabick stated most equipment that needed replaced is in, all ppe is in except twelve helmets on back order, the hose is on the way, the scba's are scheduled to be here in a month, the ladder truck will be in between July and August. He said they are still out staffing during daylight hours when there is action at the site as well as doing what they do every day. Additionally in reference to w & s billing Spratt stated we did send out pink cards this month (final disconnection notices) that have a \$25 charge per card. She said she decided not to do go through with disconnection of service the week of March 6 as there were concerns if the office would be open people to make payment, she said we will resume disconnections for nonpayment in April. She asked if Council wanted to consider not charging penalties for the month of March, Mayor Conaway added he felt we should not be charging penalties since we do have everyone back in their homes yet. Mr. Simpson made a motion to not charge penalty for the month of March, the motion was seconded by Dr. Rocco and passed unanimously. Mayor Conaway

stated we evaluate what to do in April next month. At this point Mr. Simpson made a motion to go into executive to discuss manager candidates as well as potential acquisition of real estate, inviting in Atty. Powers, Manager Spratt, the motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and passed unanimously. Approximately 10 minutes later Dr. Rocco made a motion to return to regular session seconded by Mr. Walker.

VISITORS: Mike Dugan, Jeremy & Susie Rains, Terry Allison, Jerry Coblenz, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Connor Conaway, Karen Conaway, Karen & Rick Gorby, Kent & Darlene Chapman, John Davis, Terry Keresty, Jon Rettig Jr., Zach Gorby, Carol Cope, Bruce Minamyler, Dave Biggins, David Young, Joe Samek, Bob & Tami Harris, Melissa Smith, Amanda Smith, Alfred Sauced, Nicole Johannes, Josh Sorrell, Brittany Riddle, Ken Faust, Robbie Hill, Chris Clonch, Matt Dodge, Frank Policaro, Shane Griffith, Jon Miller.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 4-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance accepting transfer of a parcel of real estate with condemned structure in lieu of demolition.** Mr. Runnion made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Walker. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 4-2023. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 5-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance creating the position of fire department administrative assistant/ems coordinator and setting wages.** Mr. Runnion made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Walker. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 5-2023. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. In reference to Ord. 6-2023 Mr. Simpson made a motion to remove Dr. Rocco's name in favor of allowing any council member to assist Fin Dir/Interim Manager Spratt, seconded by Mr. Povenski. All in favor. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 6-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance authorizing any member of council to assist the Village Manager/Finance Director on a volunteer basis.** Mr. Runnion made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Walker. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 6-2023. All in favor, 6 yes to pass. Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for their support and noted this is a very difficult situation but we will get through this

ADJOURN: Mr. Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Dr. Rocco. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY