

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of VILLAGE OF CLEVES Council Meeting Held on _____, 2013.

A Public Hearing of Council was called to order on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at approximately 6:30 p.m. in order for representatives of Eagle Energy to inform Village residents concerning our electric and gas aggregation programs.

Mr. Don Marshall of Eagle Energy, LLC began by reviewing where the Village is in the aggregation process. He indicated Eagle Energy will be searching for the best supplier for the Village and after the Village chooses their supplier, all residents will receive a "Notice to Opt-Out" of the program. Residents will have 21 days originally with an additional 7 days to decide if they wish to opt-out of the program. As part of our bidding process, the supplier we choose will have to agree to not charge a switching fee for our residents. A "Plan of Operation and Governance" is submitted to the PUCO for approval and the Plan will contain ten key elements:

- Service to be Provided
- Rates and Charges
- Disclosure Notice
- Aggregation Pool
- Opt-out Process
- Rate Classes to be Included
- Billing Procedures
- Credit or Deposit Procedures
- Customer Service Procedures
- Customer Policy (New, Moved or Opt-Out).

Mr. Marshall explained the most important part of the plan is the rates and charges. Our certification would be good for two years. They plan on the electric aggregation to move forward first with the gas coming later in the summer. At this time a discussion took place with an opportunity for questions and answers. People currently taking advantage of a lower rate supplier would have to opt out of their current plan and risk having to pay a fee or wait until their time frame is up and then join our program.

Public Hearing was Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

The Regularly-Scheduled Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Stacy at 7:02 p.m. with the pledge to the flag. All Members of Council were present with the exception of Nancy Nichols. Frank Hyle was not present due to illness; Clerk/Treasurer Bolton was present.

| | <u>Made By</u> | <u>Seconded By</u> | <u>RESULTS</u> |
|---|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| A Motion to Approve Previous Council Minutes | Santen | Meister | ALL YEAS |
| Motion to Pay Warrants & Vouchers and Adopt Pay Ordinance # 3- 2013. | Santen | Meister | ALL YEAS |

A Motion to Excuse Ms. Nichols from this meeting was made by Meister; seconded by Nichols. ALL YEAS.

At this time, Mayor Stacy asked Council to consider legislation concerning taking advantage of extending current Rumpke Garbage Contract with a two-year addendum maintaining the 2012 rates for 2013 and 2014. Following discussion, the following action was taken by Council:

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ORDINANCE # 2 – 2013 TWO-YEAR ADDENDUM TO GARBAGE CONTRACT W/RUMPKE

A Motion to Introduce Ord #2-2013 made by Santen; seconded by Meister. ALL YEAS.

A Motion to Suspend Rules, Read by Title Only made by Santen; seconded by Meister. ALL YEAS.

A Motion to Adopt Ord #2-2013 made by Santen; seconded by Meister. ALL YEAS.

The Mayor then reviewed some of the issues on Frank's legal report – one being the request of an ex-employee that the Village consider altering the date of his resignation in order for him to secure employment with a police department and allow him to avoid having to go back to the police academy and become recertified. The Mayor indicated he was not in favor of honoring this request, and every member of Council indicated they DID NOT support any change be made to this old employees personnel records.

Lastly, the Mayor reminded everyone about the requested liquor license hearing that was cancelled.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT

The Clerk reported to Council she would be getting final permanent appropriation figures together for the Finance Committee to review at the next Finance Meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Chief Renner began with his monthly detail report for January. The Mayor asked him to provide information for all Police vehicles, not the two he previously requested. The Chief indicated he had attended a meeting that took place at West JAD offices concerning drug-free communities. He indicated they agreed they did not want to wait for student survey's to be returned concerning their drug use but instead to work together with neighboring communities. He also mentioned a possible Coalition for Parents with At Risk Children.

Fire Chief Ober reviewed his January monthly stats. He thanks Officer Wright and Maintenance worker Lucky Heath for their help in assisting with a cardiac arrest run at the location of the new school. He then was asked to elaborate further on the confusion originally caused when the first call to 911 indicated they were working at the Three River's school and the dispatcher sent the squad to the Three River's Middle School. The second call to 911 had the address of the new school which they shared with the dispatcher. The quick response of Officer Wright and Mr. Heath definitely allowed this heart-attack victim to be transported with a heartbeat and pulse although days later he passed away. He also mentioned the one fire detail on Laurelwood Drive was actually extinguished by the Cleves Police Department moments before their arrival on the scene.

Street Commissioner Duncan informed Council of the upcoming pre-construction meeting over the Porter Street Box Culvert project. He also thanked the Water Works for providing much-needed help to the Maintenance Department while they were an employee short. At this time, Mayor Stacy reported to Council about some residents living on a private drive off Laurelwood who wished to enter into an agreement with the Village to provide salt and snow-plow services at the cost of \$100 per home. The Clerk asked if a new Resolution was needed authorizing this action and the Mayor believed we were covered under the existing legislation currently servicing E. State residents. He asked if Council was okay with moving forward with this and no members of Council had any objection.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Meyers, ***Parks Committee Chair***, indicated the Park Committee Meeting went well with Three River's Athletic Association presidents at the meeting to discuss the upcoming baseball season. TRAA had questions about setting up a batting cage and possible signage supporting their sponsors. The Clerk presented the Committee with 2012 Year-End

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Financials for the Park and indicated that while overall the concessions made money, we lose money during the baseball season because they do not play the same number of games during the weekend to make it cost effective. One proposal under consideration would be to rent our concession trailer to TRAA for \$5.00 per game and let them run a concession for the baseball season only. The Village would maintain the concessions for the fall soccer season. Lastly, she reminded everyone the Park Committee is planning to support "Fly A Kite" day again this year on Sunday April, 21st from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Megan Randall, **Public Works Streets Chair**, reviewed her Street Committee minutes and went over the following topics: Sink hold issued on Laurelwood; Drainage issues on Skidmore; Drainage issue on N. Miami Avenue; Missing speed limit sign on Lower River Road; Signage to help promote our local businesses presented by Jan Pastrick to the Committee; A Maintenance Worker currently out due to a slip and fall on ice on February 4th; and lastly she wanted Council to consider the request of a business owner on S. Miami who is pushing the issue to place a handicapped parking space in front of a building he owns on S. Miami. Ms. Randall indicated there is some support from other nearby business owners and she feels compelled to at least bring the issue to a vote of Council. Discussion was held concerning this topic. The Mayor reinforced he is not in favor of this request because the businesses involved are currently NOT handicap accessible and this business owner owns parking lots on both sides of these businesses that would better serve a handicapped customer. Ms. Pastrick, Ms. Meister; Mr. Santen and Ms. Meyers all indicated they do not support this request. In an effort to get official record on this issue; **A Motion to Place a Handicapped Parking Spot on S. Miami Avenue in front of the businesses of Nature Nook and Rhonda's Hair Salon made by Randall. No second was present. Motion did not carry.**

Ms. Randall chaired the Safety Committee for Ms. Nichols and reported on the following issues discussed at the last Safety Committee Meeting: Hamilton County provides assistance to local municipalities to replace/repair fire hydrants at cost and this information is being passed on to the Water Works; There has been a small uptick in daytime robberies; Discussion was held on better ways to highlight the services our Police Department provides to our residents; Possible automated speed camera tabled at this time because support of this issue is not unanimous in Committee and lastly, the STOP sign at Timberline and Mt. Nebo needs to be moved to improve visibility.

Mr. Santen, **Community Planning Chair**, reported the Planning Commission reviewed options concerning a Planned Unit Development. Current zoning fees and possible changes as they pertain to signage are being looked into. The Planning Commission discussed various nuisance properties at length. The Commission made a small change in the Tree/Shrubbery Ordinance concerning distance from 8 ft. to 10 ft.

ORDINANCE # 1-2013 ADOPTING REGULATIONS ON TREES & SHRUBBERY IN RIGHT OF WAY
A Motion to Introduce ORD #1-2013 as a First Reading made by Santen; seconded by Pastrick. ALL YEAS.

Jan Pastrick, **Finance Committee Chair**, reviewed the minutes from the recent Finance Committee and indicated the Committee at this time does not support an earned income tax due to the projected amount of revenue from an income tax (\$315,000.00) not being enough to be sustainable with the likelihood of not being able to get the current 6 mill levy passed again. The Committee will work on a multi-year projection to determine the appropriate millage amount to go to the voters for approval in August or November. The Finance Committee tabled any discussion of an income tax at this time. The recent Business Owner's meeting went well with nine business owners in attendance. The main focus of the meeting was on the potential opportunity to advertise on signage to be placed on Route 50. Ms. Pastrick has established a deadline of March 11th for businesses to decide if they want to participate or not. Cost to the business owners will depend on the total number of businesses and placement orders received.

Ms. Meister, **Public Works Water & Utility Committee**, has not had a Committee Meeting since the last meeting and therefore, does not have anything special to report at this time. Next Board of Public Affairs Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19th at 4:00 p.m. and the next Communications Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, March 18th. She also reported she would be working with Ms. Pastrick to establish a "Finance" link on the Village website.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Although no one signed in to address Council, Mayor Stacy asked if anyone in attendance wished to speak or address Council. A Rosewynne Court resident, Larry Loebker, wanted to clarify at this time a once proposed income tax has been tabled at this time. Mayor Stacy responded a proposed income tax was in the early stages of research pending firm numbers on the amount of revenue that could be generated. The Mayor said it is his understanding the placement of an income tax in the Village is currently tabled as the Finance Committee moves forward with the feasibility of placing another levy on the ballot for consideration in August. Another resident, who did not identify himself, asked Council what additional services they plan to provide for this request for additional millage?

Clerk/Treasurer Bolton at this time attempted to clarify some of the recent levies that have fallen off of the residents' tax bills and what those levies paid for. She also informed everyone that Village residents received the savings of the 2.25 West JAD levy when it went off the books and the Village was able to pay for the EMT, Fire and Paramedic services with proceeds from the sale of vehicles and equipment for over two years. A .99 Special Fire Levy also went off the books at the same time, making the total savings to residents at that time 3.24 mills. Since the funds from the sale of the fire apparatus and equipment from 2010 will run out in 2013, the Village will now need to seek additional funds to pay for these services from the general operating budget.

A long discussion was then held between unidentified residents in attendance and members of Council and the Mayor. The following issues of note were brought up or mentioned by either a resident or official of the Village:

- Mayor and Ms. Pastrick are working with business owners on possible revitalization of our business district and they would like to have a market study performed if we could afford one.
- Mayor identified traffic problems and getting residents to enter town to do their business as key issues hampering revitalization at this time.
- Unidentified resident wanting to know if Council interested in sustainability or growth? The Mayor responded he felt he could speak for everyone when he says they are looking for growth.
- Unidentified resident asked if any members of Council had any big ideas for growth? Mayor replied that is what he is hoping to achieve through the business owner's meetings. Mayor Stacy also pointed out a new business is getting ready to open up on North Miami, an ice-cream parlor.
- A general discussion was held after a resident asked Council why businesses aren't coming to the Village.
- Ms. Pastrick informed residents Mayor, Clerk and Council held an all-day "Brainstorming Session" early in 2012 in which all departments and committees were encouraged to identify areas where we could find improvement in services and cost savings potentials. Future visioning and a possible mission statement for the Village were also discussed. She is anxious and excited about scheduled another similar session this year.
- Mayor Stacy mentioned the "We Thrive" grant for the Skate Park and identified it as one of the accomplishments of the Village for identifying a need for the youth in the Village and fulfilling this need.
- Ms. Meyers pointed out we have increased our Building and Zoning department's by becoming Commercial and Residential certified and adopted the International Property Maintenance Code. She also pointed out many of the small cities and Villages that are seeing growth in their municipalities currently benefit financially from an earned income tax.
- A resident asked what kind of businesses the Village was hoping to attract and the Mayor responded he was hoping a market study could help provide the answer to those kinds of questions.
- As Council continued to be asked questions about how they were working to grow and attract businesses, Ms. Pastrick mentioned the Village currently has a CRA established in the business district and has had it for some time.

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- Fire Chief Ober mentioned the City of Cheviot and recent tax abatements they gave to attract businesses to Cheviot. Those abatements were given with the knowledge the city would benefit financially from the income tax they would receive from the salaries of the executives and employees of these businesses.
- A resident asked if the Mayor and Council were hoping to model future development of the Village after any other particular Village or small city? Ms. Pastrick mentioned possibly New Richmond would be a realistic model and Mayor Stacy said he envisioned something like a Hyde Park West. Ms. Randall pointed out possibly a themed-type business district like Reading has with their Bridal district. Ms. Meyers also pointed out she would love to see some of our historic buildings and churches take advantage of their history and she mentioned the Cleves Presbyterian Church as a potential site for a “Wedding Chapel.”
- In closing, the Mayor mentioned recent national exposure our area as received by the airing of “Rohrer’s Tavern” on a reality series. Ms. Meyers also mentioned she has travelled all through the State of Ohio over the last few years and believes the towns that have boomed have done so because of the addition of upscale housing which usually helps attract businesses to the area. She used small law offices as an example.
- Ms. Meister believes Community input and support is needed to assist us to help grow the Village and she invited anyone in attendance to step forward and volunteer their expertise in this area. The Mayor then told a story relayed to him by Ms. Pastrick on how she was informed about Merrilees Hardware shortly after moving into the Village.

A Motion to Adjourn made by Santen; seconded by Randall. ALL YEAS.

Mayor Danny Stacy

Clerk/Treasurer Linda Bolton