

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY REGULAR COUNCIL**

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO 10148

Held

March 4, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on March 4, 2019 at 7:30 pm at the Village of Fort Recovery Council Meeting Room to conduct regular business.

**Roll call** was conducted with the following Council members **Present:** Erik Fiely, Cliff Wendel, Luke Knapke, Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson and Al Post. **Also Present:** Randy Diller, Roberta Staugler, PG Jellison, Leslie Gartrell, Neal Spencer and Jared Laux.

The Mayor led with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Reports to Council:** VA Report, February Tax Report.

**Minutes:** Wendel made a motion to approve the February 18, 2019 minutes, which was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.

**Mayor:** I would like to welcome Erin Abels tonight. **Diller:** I have a memo in council drop box that explains what we have done to this point. I have asked Erin to introduce herself and tell us why she is interested in becoming our next attorney. **Erin Abels:** I am from Maria Stein and now live in Coldwater with my husband. I attend WSU, UC and graduated from UD Law School and I now work with Judy Koesters who represents a few local towns. **Diller:** I explained that we would expect our attorney to attend as many meeting as possible. The retainer would cover normal council business. **Mayor:** Do you expect to be in Coldwater for a while? **Abels:** Yes, definitely my family is now in Coldwater. **Pearson:** Do you like to do research? **Erin Minor** loved to do research. **Abels:** Yes, I was taught if there is no argument, find one. **Laux:** I assume you will have Judy to bounce ideas off of? **Abels:** Yes, I do every day. **Diller:** Judy Koesters represents Rockford, Mendon and Coldwater and Erin works in her office. **Mayor:** We were blessed to have Erin Minor, she has moved on and we wish her well. **Diller:** Erin and I met and talked, I asked her to give us a proposal. She is proposing a retainer of \$800 per month with an hourly outside rate of \$100. We would pay her OML Attorney membership which has already been paid for the year and is registered to the village. She may attend seminars that would benefit the village, and with prior approval we would agree to pay for. **Wendel:** What peaks your interest in this position? **Abels:** Drafting ordinances is something I do not do in private practice. **Mayor:** Will attending our meetings be an issue? **Abels:** Not at all. **Wendel:** What do you know about Fort Recovery? **Abels:** Not a whole lot, I have read about the reroute of State Route 49.

**Pearson made a motion to accept the resignation of Erin Minor as Village Solicitor effective February 28, 2019, this was seconded by Post. Vote all yes.**

**Mayor:** Is council on board to hire Erin Abels? **Wendel:** Will this be an annual contract? **Diller:** OHRC allows for a two year contract. I propose if you agree to hire her that her first job would be to draft the ordinance to hire her. She would finish the current contract ending on 12/31/19 then a one or two year contract beginning in 2020. This will give us nine months to make sure she is a good fit.

**Wendel made a motion to hire Erin Abels beginning March 18<sup>th</sup> until December 31, 2019, seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.**

**Mayor:** The Chamber Citizen of the Year Banquet is this Sunday beginning at 5:30 with a social hour. **Diller:** The mayor will be recognizing the Park Board for their service at the banquet.

**Diller:** Amanda prepared an explanation of the past three year income tax trends along with Februarys YTD report. Randy reviewed the report with council.

**Laux:** Brandon will be attending field training and will be off for the next three days. This training will better prepare him to train Legend. Jared will be working with Legend

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Tuesday and Thursday this week. Kim Day will retire as Fire Chief effective April 1<sup>st</sup>; Roger Lennartz will be taking over his position.

**RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES** None

**Staugler:** The 2018 Annual Report has been submitted to all necessary agencies and is available to the public. We currently have CMI software products for finance, payroll, utility and tax. This software will need to be updated by 2022. I have researched other vendors including CMI, Software Solutions and Muni-Link. I have visited with Covington who uses CMI and Mercer County who uses Software Solutions and was disappointed in the software for the upfront cost of \$30,000. We had a demo from Muni-Link in November and they will be here Wednesday to demo the software again. Jackson Center is in the process of switching and Hicksville has been with them for a couple of years. Their cost would be \$5,000 initially; their annual fee would be \$1,200 more than the other two but it would take a long time to make up the \$25,000 difference. I will plan to visit Hicksville's office to view in use.

**Diller: Cooper & J&M Mfg Annexation:** Erin worked on the annexation. We are in the process and assuming there are no objections from the Township it is on the Commissioners docket tomorrow to pass the necessary resolution. When 60 days has passed Council will approve an ordinance accepting the annexation. Erin has all documents ready; it will be a matter of inserting the dates.

**Park Project:** The weather hasn't changed. As the weather breaks we will begin work. Pearson: Will it get done before the season? Diller: It is all weather related. We will need a dry stretch in March and April. It will be a race to get completed. The shade canopies, scoreboard and lights will be ready to install soon.

**Pavilion:** This project is coming along. They installed most of the overhead doors. They were working in there today. Mayor: Will the restrooms be open for use? Diller: It will be locked and only available for those renting the shelter. Mayor: Have we set the rates? Diller: No, the Park Board will be establishing them soon. St Henry charges a \$50 nonrefundable deposit and a total charge of \$100. Mayor: Will we take care of cleaning? Diller: Yes. We are reviewing to see how to best handle the cleaning. We will need a Saturday/Sunday crew to clean.

**Broadway Street Reconstruction:** We will have the Small Gov Application meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We will learn if we will be funded by then. We will apply for CBGD funding. Kate Wuebker and Randy will meet with Jared Ebbing next week to review the County Application.

**Utility Improvements:** We received two final proposals on the lagoon aeration. There are so many styles and types. Steve Harris looked at the last two proposals. He will look at the good/bad of each system. He focuses on the plusses that relate to the cost. We have some really good ideas. The last guy said your lagoons are in great shape; there is no need for a third lagoon. He believes we won't even need the second pond as the water will be clean enough when leaving the first pond. I am not saying we won't use it. Council will be receiving more information soon.

**Gas Tax Proposal:** Most of you have seen the gas tax increase being discussed. The .18 per gallon will have an impact with ½ going to the municipality and ½ to the state. This would mean an increase from \$71,000 to \$125,000 a year for us. This money will be allocated to road and bridge improvements. Randy agrees it needs to be raised, not sure it should increase .18 all at once, maybe phase it in. This increase would take Ohio from the lower gas taxed state to the one of the highest.

**Solid Waste Plan:** We received a notice today that we need to ratify the Mercer County Solid Waste Plan. It has always been funded by tipping fees. They are expecting the

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Mercer County Land Fill to close. They will continue the solid waste plan as long as the landfill remains open. If the landfill closes there three options. 1.) Charge a \$4.50 per parcel fee which would be added to the Real Estate Tax; this would fund \$87,000 per year. 2.) Contract out of district landfills for those hauling out of the county; they would payback Mercer County a tipping fee. 3.) Access a fee based on the population or we could pay as we go such as a bag fee. They will have 90 days after March 11<sup>th</sup> to ratify the plan. Every jurisdiction regulates a solid waste plan. I don't think the Village of Fort Recovery wants to write and maintain a plan and submit it to EPA. We always want to support Mercer County Solid Waste Plan.

**Important Dates:** Randy will be attending the March 7<sup>th</sup> OBWC Safety Congress in Columbus. The Tax Incentive Review meeting will be March 12<sup>th</sup> for the annual meeting with J & M Mfg at 2pm. The March 13<sup>th</sup> CBGD meeting will be attended by Kate & Randy. The Choice One Charity Cup will be March 27<sup>th</sup>.

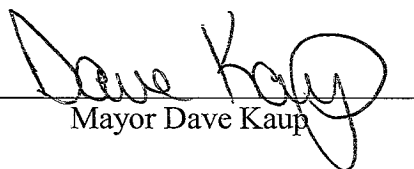
**Council Poll:** Knapke: I saw Casey's started their demo; do you see any problems at the intersection from 7am-8am and 3pm-4pm? Diller: I have no idea; I wouldn't think the demo would be an issue. People driving by looking might be a problem.

Schmitz: I drove by Brick Street Tavern last week and noticed it was congested by the stop light. There was a F250 quad parked which blocked one lane. Could we put a sign up that says cars only? Mayor: I have seen this also. You would think common sense would tell you not to park there. Diller: This is a problem all the time; 50% of the vehicles are trucks and they are all long. Laux: The only way to solve it is to do away with vertical parking. Diller: We would lose 10 to 12 parking spots. Mayor: It would be great, but you can't pull a building back. Mayor: If people would just park at more of an angle. Laux: I know people that avoid parking on Wayne Street. Diller: The reality is there are not many accidents. Fiely: I will not be at the next council meeting. Post: Is there a plan to pull bad bricks out and replace them? Diller: Yes it is the plan. We will be going through replacing the bad bricks and will also sand the whole street. It is our goal to complete this before the Jubilee.

**Council reviewed invoices #28467 to #28515 including then and now certificates, inter-departmental transfers and memo expense #190016. Wendel made a motion to approve as presented, this was seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes.**

**Wendel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Knapke.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.**

  
 Mayor Dave Kaup

