

Government Committee

Meeting Minutes

2/7/11

I. Call to order

Richard Barbera called to order the regular meeting of the **Government Committee** at **7:20 pm**.

The following persons were present: Richard Barbera, Barb Schwartz, Kathy Rhoads, Rick Stallard and Roger Kilgore. Jim Lovejoy was absent. So was Mayor Carter

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

December and January minutes were passed out and would be reviewed and voted on later in the meeting.

III. Privilege of the Floor

Richard (last name garbled on tape) commended the street's department has done a great job with the snow and the leaves

IV. Pending Legislation

A discussion took place regarding the proposed legislation.

A discussion took place regarding the indigent burial policy. Indigent is spelled wrong. We had a discussion if cemetery committee needs to recommend its passage. It was decided that it was not needed

The insurance legislation would need to be tabled. We do not have the proposed cost. We have budgeted for a 20% increase, so the expected increase should not be a problem.

The safety committee recommends that the council enact the legislation adopting the model Ohio Municipal Code.

A discussion was held regarding the changes to the salary and benefit code. Barb Schwartz noted that safety had not submitted its recommendations to Council. The issue will be brought before the safety committees.

Kathy Rhodes questioned why we needed to decide an effective date for the raises. She stated she is familiar with the corporate world but why is the government world different. Jim Carrick explained that if we used their anniversary dates some employees would receive the raise in January some in December. Finance budgeted for the raises last year. The raises are not a cost of living raise but an increase in step levels. All employees received an evaluation last year. Committees will; need to report their recommendations.

Dispatch contract with the sheriff – Police departments are talking about merging with the sheriff dispatch services. It may be waste of time to try to negotiate with other for a new contract.

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

Police department update- New officer sworn in.. Second officer going through background check.

New Council rules. It was suggested that there be a 3 minutes limit at council for privilege of the floor, per citizen. There was also a suggestion that they use the podium and address specific issues at committee level. Also Council members should just summarize committee activity. Members generally opposed limiting the time and topics of the residents. If a citizen brings an issue to council, we may want to table the ordinance until the committee can address the concerns.

There was a concern about requiring the use of the podium, but it was so they the citizen's comments can be placed on the record.

Barb Schwartz brought up the issue of a cleaning crew. The restrooms at the building need to be cleaned. The mayor offered to clean the building, but the conditions of the restrooms have been unacceptable. Barb Schwartz was asked to get some bids.

Betty at 58 Pleasant St. asked if we had a cleaning crew before and we cut it as a money saving expense. She was told that is true but the mayor is not keeping up with the demand. The crew was eliminated, but the conditions of the restrooms are becoming a health issue. The fact that we are going back to the cleaning crew is a reaction to an experiment that did not work. The mayor can keep cleaning and it will supplement her work.

I was suggested that the bids be emailed to everyone on council. If no one objects, it would be approved.

Minutes of the December meeting Rick Stallard, moved to approve, seconded by Kathy Rhodes. Approved

Minutes of the January meeting Barb Schwartz, moved to approve, seconded by Roger Kilgore. Approved

Barb Schwartz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathy Rhodes, Approved .

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: [**Name**]

Minutes approved by: [**Name**]