

# Village of Milan

## Council Meeting

May 25, 2022

May 25, 2022 Council Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Pam Crosby.

Roll call: Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – by phone.

Also present – Mayor Pam Crosby, Administrator Brian Rospert, Solicitor James Barney and Julie Stelzer. Absent was Fiscal Officer Catherine Ramey.

Motion by McManus, seconded by Rospert, to approve the Minutes of the April 27<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting. Roll Call: Bickley – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** – Mayor Crosby read a letter from Melissa Stallkamp with the Milan Unit Salvation Army, asking for use of the Electric Department property again this year for their community garden. They will have all necessary insurance requirements will be in place prior to starting the garden.

Motion by Shafer, seconded by McManus, allowing the Milan Unit Salvation Army use of the Electric Department property for their community garden. Roll Call: Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, McManus – yes, Shafer – yes, Taylor – yes, Bickley – yes.

Mayor Crosby read an email from Cathy Porta asking permission for the use of the Village Square and Gazebo for her wedding on June 3, 2022. They have secured all the proper insurance requirements and plan to have around 50 guests with no tables or chairs.

Motion by McManus, seconded by Rospert, to allow Cathy Porta use of the Village Square and Gazebo for her wedding on June 3, 2022. Roll call: Bickley – yes, McManus – yes, McIlrath – yes, Shafer – yes, Taylor – yes, Rospert – yes.

Village resident Lisa Blatnik asked why the Village Fence Ordinance was made for backyards and why is there a fee of \$175.00 to appeal since they pay taxes and feels that it is time for change. Administrator Rospert answered that the Village Fence Ordinance was in place around 2005 through the Planning Commission and developed at that time but could not answer the detail on why it was made. Administrator Rospert also mentioned that over the past few months, the Village Zoning inspector has received 19 inquiries on 6-foot solid fences. Councilperson Rospert agreed that since they have had their fence put in prior to the Ordinance, it was the best investment her and her husband did for their property and would entertain the idea of reaching out to the Planning Commission to have them review and revisit the whole fence Ordinance and try to make some changes.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION cont.** – Administrator Rospert replied to the fee of \$175.00, the majority of that money goes to Huron Township where John Zimmerman does the review of it, the narrative and the mailings that go out to the surrounding citizens.

Lisa also asked that other changes need to be made by the way people keep their yards. Council President Rospert recommends that Property Maintenance Committee meet to look at other issues within the village as well.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by McManus, to have the Planning Commission meet to discuss and review the Fence Ordinance. Roll Call: McManus – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.

Resident Mary Bruno asked who the spokesperson for the Village is for general questions and Mayor Crosby replied she was. She also asked about sidewalks and Administrator Rospert replied that this was in discussion and would be brought up at the next work session. She then spoke about the Village finances.

### **OLD COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers** – Erie County Regional Planning Commission, Metropolitan Planning Organization Grant announced that the Village of Milan application for Solar Radar Speed Limit Feedback Signs on South Main, was accepted and fully funded in the amount of \$39,415.00. The project should be completed by fall.

Administrator Rospert signed contract with A.J. Riley to repave S. Center Street from Broad Street to Church Street in the amount of \$45,259.00. Work is planned to begin in June.

Notice was received from A.J. Riley, for cost to do N. Edison Drive from Church Street to the Edison Birthplace at \$29,384.50 and N. Center Street from Church Street to Front Street at \$13,293.00. Same as quoted on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Administrator Rospert recommends the Village to hire A.J. Riley for both projects.

Motion by McIlrath, seconded by Rospert, to hire A.J. Riley to do N. Edison Drive from Church Street to the Edison Birthplace at a price of \$29,384.50. Roll Call: McManus – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.

Motion by McManus, seconded by Shafer, to hire A.J. Riley as a contractor for N. Center Street from Church Street to Front Street at \$13,293.00. Roll Call: McManus – yes, Taylor – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Shafer – yes, Bickley – yes.

Administrator Rospert would like to have a Street Committee Meeting to discuss a price quote he received for N. Huron Street from Bank Street to Front Street, Williams Street from U.S. 250 to Huron Street, Audrey Drive from S. Main Street to Winkle Road and Perrin Road from Main Street to the County Line.

## **OLD COMMITTEE BUSINESS – cont.**

Council President Rospert had a resident approach her regarding a concern they had about farm equipment possibly hitting or damaging the new walk crossing signs that are in the roadway by the Elementary School. Administrator Rospert noted that the signs are bendable. Administrator Rospert can remove them if Council would like them removed and replace them at the start of the next school year in the fall. Council chose to leave them as they are.

**Safety** – Employees attended AMP Safety/OSHA Compliance Training on May 11<sup>th</sup>, topic was Work Zone Safety and Flagging.

**Finance** – None

**Regional Planning, Building Codes & Inspection** – A Public Hearing is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M, prior to the Work Session. Agenda - Amendments to the Zoning Code section 1103.05 and 1103.02 regarding Design Review Board applications and an amendment to the Zoning Code regarding Solar Energy.

**Utilities** – Two CT Metering Transformers were damaged, and parts are on back order until late summer, for repairs to the South Electrical Substation this was due to an outage that occurred March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Update on Volunteer Energy Service Inc. bankruptcy; next court hearing is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>, AMPO continues to find new supplier and fixed rate offer to serve the aggregation program. Their suggestion is to instruct participants to choose individual suppliers via Energy Choice Ohio and to suspend aggregation program until November to allow time to monitor the market.

Council President Rospert noted that she contacted D.J. Swearingen office regarding the status of House Bill for the water surcharge and asked where the Bill is currently for the water rate surcharge to outside residents. The office replied with a new assembly that Bill is not in existence anymore. Legislation is wiped and the process would start over with the new assembly.

**Civic Contacts and Historical Preservation** – None

**Parks and Trees** – The Village of Milan received two grants through Erie Metroparks. The grant application requests were for 50% of the total cost of each project. One in the amount of \$3,628.00 to point tuck the mortar joints at the Village Square Gazebo. The second grant in the amount of \$1,215.00 for roof repairs at the Lockwood Road Park Gazebo. Adelman Construction LLC will be hired for the Village Square Gazebo in the amount of \$7,365.00 and Homestead Carpentry for the Lockwood Road Gazebo in the amount of \$2,430.00. Both contractors have the Village scheduled for July. Administrator Rospert commended Julie Stelzer for her hard work and efforts in securing these grants.

## **OLD COMMITTEE BUSINESS – cont.**

### **Parks and Trees – cont.**

On Friday April 29, 2022, the Village of Milan held our Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony where an October Glory Maple tree was planted at 315 S. Main Street.

**Records Commission** – Next Records Commission meeting will be held in June.

**Citizen Property Maintenance** - None

## **NEW COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers** – The Street Department picked up brush and yard waste, mulch and sidewalk edging was done throughout the Village properties.

**Safety** – Employees had annual physicals, hearing test and respirator fit test conducted by the Erie County Health Department.

**Finance** – None

Motion by Rospert, seconded by Shafer, to approve the Council Bills for the period of April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 25<sup>th</sup>. Roll Call: Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by Taylor, to approve the Utility Bills for the period of April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 25<sup>th</sup>. Roll Call: McIlrath – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by McManus, to approve the Financial Reports as presented for the month. Roll Call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes.

**Regional Planning, Building Code, and Inspection** – Resident at 32 E. Wilcoxson Street was sent a letter regarding a placement of a fence without a permit. The Permit has been secured and will be issued.

A Review Board Meeting is in the process of being scheduled for signs at 52 & 53 Front Street on the Square and for a solar array at 9 N. Edison Drive.

**Utilities** – The Water/Wastewater Department determined where a water leak was at the cemetery, ordered a new displacement pump at the WWTP for the Bisulfate, replaced a leaking water meter at the A-Field and flushed fire hydrants the week of May 16<sup>th</sup> on Seminary, Warwick, Perrin, Willow, Cherry, S. Main, Old State and Milan Manor Drive. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, the repaired a water main leak at 23 Milan Manor Drive. Submitted the Consumer Confidence

**NEW COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

Report to the EPA. The report is also posted on the Village Facebook and Webpage, the Administration Office and a copy is available upon request.

**Utilities cont.** – The Electric Department had the brakes and rotors replaced on the 2018 F-250 pickup and the knuckle pin in the boom truck was replaced. Met with Frontier about fixing and re-engineering their fiber optic lines going down Lockwood Road and repaired power to 1905 Sleepy Hollow Road.

**Civic Contacts and Historical Preservation** – None

**Parks and Trees** – Contracted with Ohio Tree & Excavation to remove nine trees and stump grinding.

**Records Commission** – None

**Citizen Property Maintenance** – Zoning Inspector sent out Property Maintenance letters to 73 S. Main Street and 169 S. Main Street, after several complaints on these properties.

**Communications** – None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**LEGISLATION**

Ordinance – Next Number will be 824-05-22

Resolution – Next Number will be 625-05-22

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING AN OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH R.C. §4301 AND ESTABLISHING HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS THEREIN**

Motion by McIlrath, seconded by Taylor, to bring this Ordinance to its third reading by title only. Roll Call: Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes.

Motioned by Shafer, seconded by Rospert, to adopt by title only.

Roll Call: McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes.

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF MILAN, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Motioned by Rospert, seconded by McIlrath, to suspend the rules.

Roll Call: McIlrath – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes.

Motioned by Rospert, seconded by McManus, to adopt by title only.

Roll Call: Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICES FURNISHED BY THE VILLAGE OF MILAN BY ADDING A WATER SUPPLY COST ADJUSTMENT FACTOR**

Councilperson Shafer made a comment that this Ordinance should be three readings and Council President Rospert commented that all Council members were in favor.

Resident Clarissa Burns and Resident Tina Frederick wanted to discuss why the water supply cost is being voted on. Councilperson Bickley said there was a motion on the floor and that council should proceed with the meeting

Motion by Shafer, seconded by McIlrath, to bring this Ordinance to its first reading by title only.

Roll Call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes.

**Questions for Next Meeting**

When Mayor Crosby asked Council for questions for next meeting, Resident Victor Spurling spoke out and asked what they just voted on if it was what Mr. Shafer said, Mayor Crosby replied, yes there will be three readings. Mayor Crosby then asked for a motion to adjourn tonight’s meeting then Resident Julie Flesher asked if there was any response to Resident Clarissa Burns, why Riley Road is being charged double for water and why no response is given to them. She also made mention that she appreciates the job Council does noting she would not want their job. Resident Clarissa Burns agreed and said they have been patient and they have been standing at the podium since June of last year and still have gotten no response. Administrator Rospert noted that the Village did a rate study last year with John Courtney and Resident Tina Frederick stated that they were recommendations and suggestions. Council President Rospert responded it was also recommended to raise the Village rates 10% and the residents she spoke with did not like that. The Village residents do not want their rates to go up 10%. Resident Clarissa Burns said the surcharge on the agenda is to raise the rates of the village. Administrator Rospert said there is no surcharge and Clarissa Burns stated not yet, while Council President Rospert said that cost adjustment would help the Village. Administrator Rospert said that John Courtney recommended the Water Supply Cost Adjustment.


**Questions for Next Meeting - cont.**

Resident Tina Frederick said it is still an increase in their invoice. Council President Rospert and Administrator Rospert stated that was not how they understood it. That it was recovery in case of a huge water loss, unbilled water that the Village is buying. An example Administrator Rospert made, was if there was a major fire and a lot of water is used this is where they would see it. He went on to say, Erie County is not raising their rates this year, so they will not see anything. Resident Tina Frederick asked why are they passing this as an emergency and Administrator Rospert and Council President said they were not, they are doing this as three readings. Council President Rospert stated that it was on as an emergency and when Councilperson Shafer said he feels as though it should be as three readings and they all agreed going on to say Council will take the chance that there will not be a catastrophic event prior to the passing of this Ordinance. Resident Tina Frederick and Administrator Rospert continued back and forth on both of their understanding of the meeting with John Courtney. Resident Ken Flesher asked Council if discussions are still taking place concerning the township water rates. Council President Rospert said she feels it is not a closed book and Council member McManus stated she is fairly new to Council and is trying to catch up on this and as far as she is concerned it is not a close case. Council President Rospert replied they have to have discussions with committees and Council on these topics and they do not appreciate being yelled at, Council does the best job they can and commented that she appreciates Resident Julie Flesher noting that. Council President Rospert went on to say that the job isn't easy but they are the ones that stepped up and are sitting there and that they do the best they can. Mayor Crosby stated the she also does not appreciate someone coming into her office and attacking her about this and not knowing even what the was talking about.

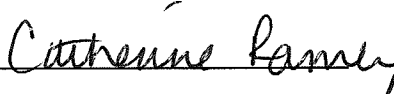
**Adjournment**

Motion by McIlrath, seconded by McManus, to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Roll Call: McManus – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, Rospert – yes, McIlrath – yes, Bickley – yes.



Carla Rospert, Council President



Catherine Ramey, Fiscal Officer