

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Steve Smith presided over the meeting.

Members answering roll call were Liz Dreher, Martin Zehnder, Kathy Burrier, Jeff Smith, Dustin Briggs, and Don Wallick. Others present were Legal Counsel Richard Fox, Police Chief Dave Warrick, Zoning Inspector Karl DiBacco, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Ed Dailey, Kevin Herron, Danny Argabrite, Gene Hensel, Jerry Schultz, Dave Smith, and Tom Spidell.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2020 council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval.

The April financial statement, April Unified Bank Statement, April SSB Worksheet, and the list of bills was presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve the April financial statement, April Unified Bank Statement, April SSB Worksheet, and the list of bills in the amount of \$ 127,608.84. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Zoning Inspector Karl DiBacco recommended to council on behalf of the Planning Commission to rezone the 8.520 acres owned by Vina Hensel on North Wooster Avenue to a B2 zoning. DiBacco reported that the Planning Commission voted to recommend to rezone the property from a M1 zoning to a B2 zoning. DiBacco noted that the public hearings were held and that 2.1 acres of the property will be sold for a car wash and uniform cleaning business. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Jeff Smith, to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and authorize Legal Counsel Fox to draw up an ordinance to rezone the 8.520 acres owned by Vina Hensel to a B2 zoning. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Ed Dailey addressed council on behalf of the Strasburg youth baseball program, noting that the program has had no organized practices through this pandemic. Dailey noted that they held a league meeting after the announcement from the Governor allowing youth sports to begin Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Dailey noted that the league reached out to the Tuscarawas County Health Department to discuss the current guidelines and noted that they are prepared to follow the guidelines and begin a summer season. Dailey noted that they would practice for two weeks and then have a short season of ten games per division and no tournaments. Dailey noted that the games would run from June 8th to July 17th. Dailey noted that they will have parent meetings before the games to discuss with them the guidelines regarding spectators for the games noting that the families will be seated together and they will be distanced apart from other families. Dailey noted that the players will not sit in the dugouts, they will sit with their families and will have on masks when not on the field. Dailey noted that the state guidelines noted no high fives and no handshakes, we will tip our caps. Dailey noted that coaches and umpires are required to wear masks at practice and games. Dailey noted that the Umpire will be behind the pitcher not the catcher and the players will not share equipment and no shared water. Dailey noted that most players have their own bats, and catchers have their own gear. Dailey noted that the bats will be wiped off between batters. Dailey noted that we have met to discuss how practices will be run and that the dugouts will not be used. Dailey noted that the players will be asked to self-evaluate on fevers and asked to not participate if they are not feeling well. Dailey noted that there will be no concession stand. Dailey noted that the guidelines are very specific and that we will make sure that they are enforced. Dailey noted that at the parent meetings we will be talking to the parents to make sure that if their child does not feel well that they not be there. Kathy Burrier noted that any positive case of Covid 19 must be reported to the Tuscarawas County Health Department so that they can begin the tracing of the case. Dailey noted that the village is in the position to reopen and that with the information today we need to open back up and he noted that they are very happy with what the league has come up with and will take this very seriously. Mayor Steve Smith noted that any infraction will be reported to the health department and that spectators that do not follow the guidelines will be asked to leave. Mayor Smith noted that we don't have the employees available to clean the restrooms pertaining to the guidelines, so the restrooms will remain closed and portable toilets will be brought in. Mayor Smith noted that the police department will be patrolling in the park and himself and council will be visiting in the park to make sure that the guidelines are being followed. Dailey noted that they will not have a T Ball season this year and noted that they understand the position that the Mayor and Council are in but feel that they can follow the guidelines and be safe.

Tom Spidell addressed council on behalf of the Strasburg youth softball program asking the Mayor and council to allow them to begin their season on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Spidell noted that they have discussed with parents all of the guidelines and that some of the parents are ready for their children to play and will follow the guidelines set by the governor. Spidell noted that they are prepared to follow the guidelines and rules set by the governor and the health department. Spidell noted that they have waivers from the USA Softball league that the parents will sign to relieve the liability of the village and the softball league. Spidell noted that if the village does not open the fields, they will find another location to practice and the games would be away games. Spidell noted that they are discussing tonight how many teams and what ages noting that there are some in the league

that are not going to play. Spidell noted that we could just have only team play at home at a time. Dustin Briggs asked what they will do if a player tests positive. Spidell noted that he did not see that in the guidelines. Fox noted that the organizer must maintain a list of coaches, players, and anyone in attendance including name, address, and phone numbers, at all practices and games, so that the health department will have that information in case of tracing for a positive case. Dailey noted that he will have the contact information on the players, coaches and spectators. Fox noted that before we reopen there needs to be a plan that if someone tests positive what is the next step. Fox suggested getting the information of the spectators also even though it is not in the guidelines. Dailey noted that the health department said just the coaches, employees, and the players. Fox suggested getting the information on the spectators also noting that we have the responsibility not just for ourselves. Dailey noted that the goal is to open things back and we realize that there is a risk, but we need to get moving. Mayor noted that the restrooms will not be open and there will be portable toilets and that there will be no water fountains. Spidell noted that most players have their own equipment and will be not be sharing. Mayor Smith and council thanked them for their input.

Dave Smith addressed council regarding the softball tournament that is scheduled for June 19, 20, 21, 2020 at Strasburg Franklin Park. Smith noted that he feels they can complete the tournament in two days and will have small teams with a small fan base. Smith noted that most coaches are also parents and that they will follow the USA guidelines and will have waiver and liability sheets. Smith noted that there will be no concession stand, but would like to propose allowing food trucks. Smith noted that the spectators will be out in the outfield and not behind the batter. Smith noted that there will be two people keeping score and will sit behind the batter spaced apart. Smith noted that they have 25 teams signed up and they will play games back to back and then leave and then the next set of teams will enter the park and play back to back games. Smith noted that they will follow the guidelines from the state and the USA rules. Mayor Smith and council thanked him for the information.

Jeff Smith noted that we need to keep everyone as safe as we can and would like to see the children be able to play. Kathy Burrier suggested the temperature checks on the coaches and players, and suggested that council go through the park and if we see any violations of the guidelines, that we shut it down. Fox noted that community spread is a concern and we could request that they turn in the tracing lists and limit spectators to only family and a limit of six members only. Fox noted that the tournament would have to adhere to the lists of the attendees and suggested that they hire their own security person. Mayor Smith noted that the health department it to be advised of any tournaments. Burrier expressed a concern of the food trucks. Martin Zehnder noted that if the parents are willing for their children to play, we should allow them to play. Briggs agreed too that if the parents are okay, we should allow them to play, but noted that he is not in favor of the tournament. Briggs agreed that if they have a positive case, they would have to shut down. Mayor Smith noted that many municipalities are not opening their fields this year and that many leagues are not participating this year.

A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Don Wallick, to follow the governor's guidelines and open the fields at the park, noting any infractions will close the fields, limit the spectators to family only up to six members, and place a plan in place if there is a positive case. At roll call, all members voted approval.

A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Jeff Smith, to open the park for the June softball tournament, organizer will pay for extra cleaning of the portable toilets, will provide security for the event, will follow the governor's guidelines, limit spectators to only six family members, and any infraction will stop the tournament immediately. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Safety - Council held a brief discussion on traffic violation issues on 9<sup>th</sup> Street SW. Police Chief Dave Warrick reported that the police department has issued ten warnings and one ticket. Safety Chairwoman Kathy Burrier set a safety committee meeting for Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 5 pm to discuss signage for 9<sup>th</sup> Street SW.

Park – Chairman Dustin Briggs reported that he met briefly with Jim Dreher and was given a cost estimate of \$ 4,475.00 for a sidewalk for the restrooms, and discussed the repair of the concrete pad in front of the gazebo. A motion was made by Dustin Briggs, seconded by Jeff Smith, to contract with Dreher for concrete work at the park. At roll call, all members voted approval. Briggs noted that we are still awaiting the directional sign designs for the park.

Street – Chairman Don Wallick reported that the bid opening for the county paving program is June 3, 2020 and that Engineer Don Dummermuth is working on the estimate for Oak Avenue NW.

Finance – Chairman Jeff Smith provided council with a copy of a letter received from the 9<sup>th</sup> Street NE property owner asking for forgiveness of sewer charges due to a water leak at 132 9<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Mayor Smith noted that Village Administrator Ron Lambert had stated that we have done this in the past on a case by case basis.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to authorize the sewer consumption credit per village ordinance. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Smith reported that he talked to Kevin Espenschied and Dave Duvall to fill the two vacant seats on the Board of Zoning Appeals. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to appoint Kevin Espenschied and Dave Duvall to the Board of Zoning Appeals. At roll call, Kathy Burrier abstained from the vote and all remaining council members voted approval.

#### **ORDINANCE O-19-2020**

Ordinance O-19-2020 was given its third reading by title only. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Ordinance O-19-2020, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 95.07(G) OF THE MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG ISSUED IN JUNCTION WITH THE STRASBURG OHIO BASIC CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

#### **ORDINANCE O-21-2020**

Ordinance O-21-2020 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Jeff Smith, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Jeff Smith, to approve Ordinance O-21-2020, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WADE CONWAY BY THE STRASBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SERVE AS A PART-TIME FIRE FIGHTER, PENDING COMPLETION OF HIS HIRING REQUIREMENTS, EFFECTIVE MAY 20, 2020, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Jerry Schultz reported that the American Legion will hold their chicken BBQ in June. Schultz noted that they have their food permit from the health department and will wear gloves and masks and follow all of the guidelines from the health department. Schultz also reported that the American Legion will perform a private ceremony at the cemetery on Memorial Day.

Mayor Smith reported that Police Officer Tom Coutts has received compliments from village businesses for his service of going above and beyond on safety checks on businesses in the village after hours.

Mayor Steve Smith, council, and attendees held a brief moment of silence to pay respect to Strasburg Franklin School 2020 graduate Ariel Stout and her family.

A motion was made by Marty Zehnder, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to adjourn at 7:55 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.

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MAYOR STEVE SMITH

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FISCAL OFFICER JENNIFER MAHONEY