

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 8, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the meeting was held over the internet via Zoom. The public was invited to attend the meeting and a link was available on www.VillageofLodi.com for the public to view the meeting, adhering to Governor DeWine's directive for meetings and social distancing during the emergency pandemic.

Lodi Village Council met on the above date for a Regular Meeting with the following Council Members present: Miller, Mapes, May, Graham, Ridenour, and Jameyson. Also in attendance were Mayor Robert Geissman, Assistant Village Solicitor Alex Quay, Clerk-Treasurer Annette Geissman, Police Chief Keith Keough, Fire Chief Chris Ridenour, and Utility/Street Superintendent Tracy Haltrich.

MINUTES

A motion was made by May and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the 2-22-21 regular council meeting. Graham reported the need for the following correction: Under the motion to authorize the reimbursement for broken glasses for Patrolman Fred Geissman, the words "had deal" need to be changed to "had to deal".

Upon roll call: YEAS: May, Miller, Mapes, Graham, Ridenour, and Jameyson

NAYS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Greg and Tina Frary, of 215 Redfield Street, were present to ask permission to place two small free food pantries in the village. They would like to place one in Lodi Central Park and one at the Fire House. This would be for nonperishable food items only. Vouchers would be placed in the pantries for people to receive fresh produce in the summer. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by May to allow the two small food pantries. The Frary's will work with Parks Chair Melody Miller on details for placement, etc.

Upon roll call: YEAS: Miller, May, Mapes, Graham, Ridenour, and Jameyson

NAYS: None

LEGISLATION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO UPDATE SPEED LIMITS AND SPEED LIMIT SIGNAGE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF LODI, AND DECLARING THE SAME TO BE AN EMERGENCY. A motion was made by Ridenour and seconded by Jameyson to approve the resolution.

Upon roll call: YEAS: Ridenour, Jameyson, Miller, Mapes, May, and Graham

NAYS: None

COMMITTEE REQUESTS

MILLER – PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTIES

Miller reported that she was contacted by Christy Ladina, owner of Parkside Peddlers, regarding permission to place a specialty hot dog cart on the downtown square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on

Fridays on a trial basis. The person running the cart has all health department permits, etc. Part of the proceeds from the sale of the specialty hot dogs will be donated to our parks. Council members were in agreement with this request.

Miller reported that Deb Indoe will be helping her plan and design the flower pots around the square this year and they will begin the process in May.

Miller reported that the splash pad project is on track. The village is waiting for more information regarding when this grant project will begin.

Miller reported that she spoke to Karen Glass from LHEDO, and Karen is interested in placing flower pots at homes around the village square area. Miller explained to her that this would need to be a private homeowner decision. Miller asked if the LHEDO members are still part of the economic development grant that the village received. Council Member Mapes responded that they are not. The group is just a few people who gather together privately.

Miller asked Police Chief Keough if the police department has installed the keyless entry system at the police station. Chief Keough responded that this has not been done yet.

MAPES – SAFETY

Mapes had nothing to report at this time.

Police Chief Keough and Fire Chief Ridenour reported that the Lodi American Legion donated \$500 each to the police department and fire department. A motion was made by Mapes and seconded by Jameyson to accept the donations to the departments.

Upon roll call: YEAS: Mapes, Jameyson, Miller, May, Graham, and Ridenour
NAYS: None

Police Chief Keough reported that he spoke to Utility/Street Superintendent Tracy Haltrich regarding whether there is a need for no parking signs (discussed at a prior council meeting) due to residential parking on Church Street. Chief Keough spoke to the person parking on the street. The person is the daughter of the couple living at the residence. The couple are ill, and the daughter parks there to load and unload her parents for appointments. Chief Keough informed her that she could park there for loading and unloading, but not for long periods or overnight. Discussion was held regarding whether or not no parking signs are needed on the street. Council Member Miller reported that the church and funeral home use the street for overflow parking. Discussion was held regarding the need to enforce no parking signs uniformly for all parking on the street if the signs are placed. Council Member May stated that she does not feel the signs are needed. Council Member Graham reported that if signs are placed on Church Street then signs will need to be placed on all streets. She could envision enforcement problems if a resident is having a graduation party, wedding event, etc. Police Chief Keough reported that the police department can handle the parking situations on a case by case basis. Mapes reported that she brought it up because she feels it has been a real issue at this particular house. Police Chief Keough reported that he will continue to monitor the situation and does not feel that it is currently a problem after speaking with the daughter of the individuals.

Council Member Jameyson reported that the parking issue on Baker Street is resurfacing and asked Police Chief Keough to look into the situation.

Council Member Mapes asked if the village is making the COVID vaccine mandatory for our employees. Assistant Village Attorney Alex Quay stated that he does not believe the village can make it mandatory. Mapes reported that she hopes everyone takes it because she doesn't want to see the employees use it as an excuse not to work, and she wants to see the employees back to work. Council Member Miller reported that she has more faith in our village employees than this and does not believe this would happen. Mapes responded that she doesn't want to see it happening.

Council Member May asked Police Chief Keough if he plans to get another K-9 unit. The chief responded that he hopes to, but it may not occur soon.

Police Chief Keough reported that he is interviewing to fill the open full time officer position.

Council Member Miller thanked Chief Keough and all of the village employees for their hard work and stated that people need to keep positive about our employees.

Police Chief Keough reported that he promoted Ashlee Miller to the position of Police Sgt. He also reported that due to the problems he has been experiencing with social media he has deactivated the police department Facebook page and has no plans to bring it back.

MAY – FINANCE AND LEGISLATION

May had nothing to report at this time.

GRAHAM - STREETS & SIDEWALKS

A motion was made by Graham and seconded by Miller to authorize the utility/street superintendent to apply for the BWC Trench Safety Grant.

Upon roll call: YEAS: Graham, Miller, Mapes, May, Ridenour, and Jameyson

NAYS: None

Graham reported that Utility/Street Superintendent Tracy Haltrich hopes to have the street department begin storm sewer cleaning in a few weeks.

RIDENOUR – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ridenour reported that someone inquired about village zoning regulations regarding possibly placing a medical marijuana dispensary in the village.

Ridenour reported that the City Hardware building is being purchased by an investor/realtor who wants to keep the hardware store downstairs. The new owner would like to use the upstairs as an event and venue center for various activities. Mayor Geissman reported that the new owner is going to fill out a conditional zoning certificate request and list all of the possible business uses she would like approved for the upstairs.

Ridenour reported that Whisper Creek is currently clearing brush to begin Phase 2 of their development project.

JAMEYSON – ZONING

Maryann Chandler, representing the Whisper Creek Subdivision, was present to discuss a draft construction agreement for Phase 2 of the subdivision project. Discussion was held regarding the amount needed for the construction bond for the project. Mayor Robert Geissman read the subdivision regulations section referencing construction bond requirements. It was determined that a meeting will be held tomorrow with Mayor Geissman, Village Attorneys Sugerman and Quay, and Maryann Chandler to review requirements and determine a proper bond amount. A special council meeting will then be scheduled to vote on the final draft so that construction may commence as soon as possible.

Jameyson reported that the zoning inspector removed various signs in right of ways discussed at previous meetings which were not permitted to be there.

MAYOR GEISSMAN

Mayor Robert Geissman reported that the MCDAC Grant application period has opened up. He will look at potential grant items the village may apply for.

Mayor Robert Geissman reported that the NOACA TLCI Grant application in the amount of \$85,000 is still pending. Mayor Geissman reached out to Jim Thompson regarding the grant status and was told that the recommendation process has been moved to April 9, 2021. The village should receive results after this date.

Mayor Geissman reported that he also contacted NOACA regarding the status of the free electronic vehicle charging station that the village has been selected to receive.

There being nothing further to come before council, a motion was made by Graham and seconded by May to adjourn the meeting.

Upon roll call: YEAS: Graham, May, Miller, Mapes, Ridenour, and Jameyson

NAYS: None



Robert Geissman, Mayor


Annette Geissman, Clerk-Treasurer