

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in a regular session at the Amberley Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road on MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. Mayor Merrie Stillpass called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

**PRESENT:**

Jon Chaiken  
Fran Cohen  
Peg Conway  
Ed Hattenbach  
Louis Katz  
Leslie McIntosh  
Merrie Stillpass

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Bernie Boraten, Village Manager  
Jack Monahan, Police/Fire Chief  
Rick Kay, Village Treasurer  
Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor  
Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

**ABSENT:**

Mayor Merrie Stillpass welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amberley Village Council, and led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Stillpass noted that Chief Monahan, who was not present during roll call, had now joined the meeting.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Stillpass presented the minutes of the February 8, 2010, regular meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. There being none, Mayor Stillpass stated that the minutes stand approved as distributed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Boraten presented the February 2010 Finance Report (copy attached). Mayor Stillpass asked if there were any questions. There being none, Mayor Stillpass announced that the finance report would be filed.

**RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Mr. Tom Neuman, resident at 5120 Rollman Estates Drive, expressed concern that Council does not have a contract in place for the solicitor and that the solicitor hired is not the individual present at this evening's meeting. He stated that it is his understanding that the Council hired Mr. Malloy as the solicitor; however, Mr. Malloy is also the solicitor for Maderia, and has a conflict with the Amberley council meeting dates. Mr. Neuman suggested that Council either hire a new solicitor or change the council meeting dates so that Mr. Malloy can attend accordingly.

Mr. Neuman next explained that he was bothered by another item at the recent Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. He stated that the Committee should be able to run its course and Council should let the individuals on the Committee make recommendations. He then thanked Council for the opportunity to speak.

Mayor Stillpass thanked Mr. Neuman for his comments and proceeded with the next item of business.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Mrs. Conway reported that the copy deadline for the upcoming newsletter is March 18. The due date was moved up in order to have the newsletter distributed to residents prior to the Arbor Day event.

### **HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE**

Ms. McIntosh reported that last week she attended the Hamilton County Health Department's advisory board meeting and learned that the County considered its recent emergency response to the H1N1 flu virus event a successful response. The County reported that Points of Dispensation at schools and appointment clinics were key components of keeping the response organized and effective. At that meeting, the County also considered proposing that communities consider adopting the County's Point of Dispensation plan. Ms. McIntosh pointed out that she would keep council apprised of such a proposed plan for adoption.

Ms. McIntosh stated that the County also reported that grant monies had been received to focus on obesity. She stated that the County is trying to improve the health of residents by getting information out about increasing activity and better access to healthy foods.

She then reported that she learned of an award named the Healthy Community Award, which is a point-based award, similar to the Tree City USA award. She stated that communities must promote active lifestyles to gain points toward such an award. She stated that the Village would begin a lecture series on health to pursue this award.

Ms. McIntosh reported that the recent committee meeting was cancelled due to the winter weather. The next meeting is scheduled for March 25 at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. The committee will discuss the Village's deer management plan. There will also be a speaker at the meeting from Quality Deer Management Association.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

Ms. McIntosh reported that Arbor Day will be on May 2 from 12-4 p.m. There will be activities such as plantings in the front island garden, honeysuckle removal in coordination with the Cincinnati Park Board, rain garden tours, and cleaning up of the flower beds around the walking track. Volunteers are welcome to attend. Mitzi Miller will also have the history room open for tours. Ms. McIntosh then announced that the chili cook-off will not be a part of Arbor Day; however, the committee is planning a new event for the fall season, in addition to the Ice Cream Social, that will incorporate a chili cook-off.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Stillpass reported that the Village Manager having met with the Center for Local Government has proposed the following resolution for council approval as it relates to electricity rate cost savings. Mayor Stillpass read and moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2010-04, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CENTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO ACT AS AGENT FOR AMBERLEY VILLAGE RELATED TO THE CLG ELECTRIC JOINT PURCHASING COLLABORATIVE. Seconded by Mrs. Cohen and the motion passed. Mayor Stillpass then asked if the Village Manager had any additional comments regarding this item.

Mr. Boraten reported that the Center for Local Government is embarking on a very interesting collaborative as it relates to electricity rates. The member governments within the Center for Local Government have agreed on this occasion to collaborate on a two-pronged approach. The first being to conduct a long-term examination of energy rates and options for collaboration and to also move ahead toward a “rapid deployment” option to take quotes now to benefit from lower rates. That process is now underway. More than 17 governments have already joined the collaborative. Should Council proceed to authorize CLG to act as the Village’s agent, the CLG will then seek quotes. Mr. Boraten continued by stating that he believes that this will be a good venture for the Village as the governments will only take quotes that result in a cost savings.

After a brief general discussion on this matter, Mr. Katz moved to amend the resolution by adding the following language shown in bold to Section 1: That the Center for Local Government (CLG) is hereby authorized to act as agent for Amberley Village **through December 31, 2011** for the purpose of executing a purchase agreement for electricity **that is more advantageous than our current terms and rates** pursuant to the CLG Cooperative Pricing System. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chaiken commented that the Village’s participation in the cooperative purchasing available through the Center for Local Government has been a continued cost-savings measure in categories such as healthcare benefits, offices supplies and salt.

Mayor Stillpass then moved to go into executive session to discuss litigation with the Village Solicitor. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously. Council exited Council Chambers and met in the conference room.

The Council returned to Council Chambers with the same members being present as reflected in the roll call at the start of the council meeting. Mr. Chaiken moved reconvene the public council meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried unanimously.

### **MANAGER’S REPORT**

Mr. Boraten reported that the month of February was a very snowy month, which had a huge impact on the efforts and dollars spent by local governments. He reported that the Village’s collective storm data showed over 25 inches of ice and snow during the month of February. The Village utilized 526 tons of salt for the month of February. The Village has ordered 450 tons of salt over and above what was anticipated. The man hours utilized during February were a total of 395. In comparison, the entire season showed 640 man hours utilized. Mr. Boraten commented that he received many emails passed on to him from various sources commending the work of the maintenance department.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Chaiken reported that at the last council meeting a resolution was adopted for change orders related to the completion of the Aracoma Forest project. He stated that he has learned from the Village Engineer that there will be additional items added to the punch list; therefore, the council may be revisiting that item again.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Katz commented that all members of council received a letter from John Hornbeek relative to Nicole Browder receiving certification as a Certified Municipal Clerk. He stated that he wanted to acknowledge the good job she has been doing and announce this certification that she received from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Mrs. Stillpass asked if there was any additional business. Chief Monahan explained briefly that a flyer from a resident that was distributed to council which was detailing a new option for bullet proof vests. Mr. Katz supported the idea of reviewing this new option if the police department would be interested.

Mayor Stillpass stated that there being no other business the meeting is adjourned.

---

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

---

Mayor Merrie Stillpass