

**Council Meeting
27 January 2014**

Mayor Fischbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Linda Swaney – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Dianne Lillibridge – Yes, Brian Johnston – Yes, Charles Boehnlein- No.

Visitors: Jack Garner, Rick Smigelski, Josh Echt, Lee, Joe Kozial, John Manfredi, Holly Lynn, Debbie Palmisano, Sue Miller, Kim Breyley, Todd Hicks.

Mayor Fischbach recognized Mr. John Manfredi, President of the Berkshire School Board. Mr. Manfredi presented to Council and the public news of the potential consolidation of Newbury and Berkshire school systems. Berkshire School enrollment is shrinking. Both school districts are projecting deficits within the next three years unless funding or cost saving measures are found. A consolidation of the two districts would save money by reducing redundant staffing and the number of buildings in operation. Mr. Manfredi estimated the total school population of Berkshire to be around 1000 and Newbury to be 530. Early stage planning suggests that the elementary schools would remain in operation, all 9 to 12 classes would move to Berkshire HS and middle school students would be split between two locations. A public meeting on the consolidation will be held on February 18 from 5 to 8 PM at Kent State Geauga Campus. Members of the state school board, State Board of Education and other state officials along with members of the local school boards will be in attendance. To proceed, a majority vote of eligible voters in both districts (combined) is needed.

Police Report:

Chief Smigelski reported for December 2013. Police responded to 117 calls, filed 11 reports, and made 66 traffic stops and 3 arrests. Full time officers worked 496 hours, part-time officers worked 289 hours and auxiliary officers worked 117 hours. 3667 miles were put on the cruisers.

Street Report:

Chief Smigelski informed Council about the snow plowing schedule in place for the Village. Chief Smigelski asked Council to consider hiring Universal Disposal for Spring Cleanup at \$800 per truck load. Three companies were asked to bid on the work but only Universal Disposal responded. The date available is 3 May. Ms. Swaney moved to accept the quote from Universal Disposal for Spring Cleanup on 3 May 2014. Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. Roll Call: Linda Swaney – Yes, Craig

Ronyak – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Dianne Lillibridge – Yes, Brian Johnston – Yes.
Motion passed.

Chief Smigelski will be getting quotes for spring brush pickup shortly. Chief Smigelski stated that the Street Department will be doing some sidewalk work this year. The tear out will be done in house with an outside company pouring the new sidewalk. Mr. Blair asked Chief Smigelski to consider making the sidewalks wide enough to accommodate the snowplow tractor.

Solicitor Report:

Mr. Hicks had nothing to report.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

Ms. Swaney introduced RESOLUTION 2014-08, requesting the County Auditor to certify to the Taxing Authority the total tax valuation of the subdivision and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by a specified number of mills and declaring an emergency and placed in on first reading.

Mr. Paquette asked for discussion noting that the resolution required a decision on the number of mills and renewal versus replacement. Council discussed and decided to make the request a renewal of the existing 4.75 mill levy. Ms. Swaney amended her introduction of Resolution 2014-08 and it remains on first reading.

Ms. Swaney introduced ORDINANCE 2263-14, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Debbie Palmisano for professional services commencing March 1, 2014 and ending February 28, 2015 and placed it on first reading.

Ms. Palmisano questioned the ordinance because her previous contract does not expire until March 31, 2014. Mr. Paquette acknowledged that difference but added that the Council could supersede it with a new contract if adopted.

Ms. Swaney introduced ORDINANCE 2267-14, authorizing the Geauga County Auditor to assign house numbers and street addresses within the Village of Burton and placed it on first reading.

Fiscal Officer

Mr. Paquette asked for a motion to pay approved bills. Mr. Ronyak moved to pay approved bills and Mr. Blair seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion approved.

Mr. Paquette asked for comments or approval of minutes of the 13 January meeting. Mrs. Lillibridge presented changes on page six; in the third line, the word 'and' should be 'an'. Ms. Swaney moved to accept the minutes as amended. Mrs. Lillibridge seconded the motion. By voice vote, motion approved.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Fischbach noted the Utilities and Street Departments cooperated very well together to repair two water main breaks earlier this month. Mayor Fischbach reported that he held the first of a regular monthly meeting with Department heads to discuss ongoing projects and work around the Village. The Mayor specifically pointed out a discussion on the possible purchase of radio remote read water meters. Mayor Fischbach reiterated that there is a lot going on in the Village this year but funding is stable.

Old Business:

Mayor Fischbach touched upon pay raises saying that not all evaluations were complete but that he still wanted Council to consider a 2.5% increase.

New Business:

Mrs. Lillibridge noted that BPA has a meeting with ARCADIS about the wastewater treatment plant expansion. Mrs. Lillibridge also asked who would be attending the Geauga Township Association Meeting on the 29th of January. Mayor Fischbach expressed an interest in attending.

Mr. Ronyak moved to adjourn and Ms. Swaney seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Mayor/President Pro Tempore

Fiscal Officer