

Burton Village Council Minutes
6 November 2017

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

Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Roberta Dobay – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Joe Hernandez – Yes, Nick Tromba - Yes.

Visitors: Jack Garner, Ann Wishart, Pat Linn, Joe Koziol, Judy Beaumier, Marcianne Kimpton.

Mayor Koster asked for a motion to approve or amend the minutes of 23 October 2017. Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion passed.

Mayor Koster asked for a motion to adopt or amend the agenda for the Council Meeting of 6 November 2017. Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the agenda as written and Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion passed.

Fiscal Officers Report:

Mr. Paquette reported that the Summary of Revenue and Expenses was presented and he would answer any questions posed. The General Fund is in good shape. Council had no questions.

Mr. Paquette noted that he was waiting on the department heads to provide their budget input for 2018.

Mayor Koster asked for a motion to accept and pay approved invoices. Mr. Boehnlein mentioned that the invoice for chip and seal of Spring Street was being withheld because the total billed was more than \$3,000 higher than the quoted figure for the job. Chief Smigelski has been asked to contact the contractor and get a reason why the invoice was so much higher without notifying anyone before the work was performed. Mr. Boehnlein moved to accept and pay the approved invoices. Mr. Blair seconded the motion. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Joe Hernandez – Yes, Roberta Dobay –Yes.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Mayor Koster placed Ordinance 2330-17, to make an Interim Budget for appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Burton during the Fiscal Year ending 31 December 2018, on second reading.

Mr. Boehnlein placed Ordinance 2331-17, to approve, adopt and enact the 2017 replacement pages to the Codified Ordinances, and declaring an emergency, on second reading. Mr. Boehnlein moved to waive

further readings. Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Joe Hernandez – Yes, Roberta Dobay – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to adopt Ordinance 2331-17 and Mr. Ronyak seconded the motion. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Craig Ronyak – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Joe Hernandez – Yes, Roberta Dobay – Yes. Ordinance 2331-17 is adopted.

Mayors Report

Mayor Koster reported that the Berkshire Community Planning Association was suggesting a meeting on 16 November 2017 at 7 PM with representatives from Burton Village, Burton Township, and Claridon Township to discuss future Fire Department rates, contracts and possible consolidation. The location for the meeting has not been finalized.

Mayor Koster addressed issues brought up at the day care on Baird Street regarding the behavior of certain local residents. The Mayor explained that the resident in question has diagnosed medically based behavioral problems. The Mayor and Police department are working to address this issue.

Old Business

Mayor Koster introduced a discussion regarding salary rates. Ms. Dobay brought up the cost of health care and potentially having the employees pay for part of their health care costs. Mrs. Dobay also offered to only provide raises to employees who have demonstrated their desire to stay in the Village by working here for three years or more. Mrs. Dobay brought the amounts paid in other Geauga County communities was higher. Mrs. Dobay felt that the Street department was preparing to take more responsibility for utility and street repairs. Mrs. Dobay talked about merit based raises.

Mr. Boehnlein and Mr. Ronyak countered that rates in the Village were low because the Village doesn't have the money to pay the kind of wages that many surrounding communities pay. The health care benefit goes to offset that lower pay. Mayor Koster added that employees should be provided the breakdown of how the health care benefit, along with the PERS, vacation and sick time, to fully assess the amount of compensation they are receiving.

Mr. Boehnlein, Mr. Ronyak and Mr. Paquette pointed out the that Street Department has always helped out the Utilities Department with infrastructure repairs and that the amount help was based on the situation. Merit raises have short comings because of personnel bias that may become evident in a group of employees this small if one person is controlling the final evaluation process.

Mr. Ronyak indicated that he preferred an across the board increase of 5% for employees, with the exception of the Utilities department employees who have already received an increase based on new hiring

status. Mr. Paquette provided Council with pay scenarios that encompassed all employees at 2.5%, 5%, and with individual 2 or 3 dollar per hours raises. Mr. Paquette asked Council to make a recommendation at the next meeting as to what level of raise they wanted, for individuals or the group, and if they wanted to have employees pay a percentage of their health care costs. At that time Mr. Paquette draft a revised Ordinance depicting minimums and maximums along with an Ordinance stating the rate of hourly pay for 2018 and 2019 for full time and part time employees.

Ordinance 2326-17 and 2327-17 remain tabled by Council.

New Business

There was no new business brought before Council.

Open Public Participation

Mayor Koster recognized Mrs. Pat Linn. Ms. Linn informed Council that her sewer line is clogged and the repair might entail removing landscaping and dismantling, temporarily, the porch which might impact the Historical District Architectural Review Board. Mayor Koster informed her that the Historical District Architectural Review Board did not have any authority regarding landscaping and that as long as the porch was returned to a similar state as that it was before the work, then there should not be a problem.

Mayor Koster recognized Mr. Jack Garner. Mr. Garner wanted to know the dollar amount for the pay raises. Mr. Ronyak tried to explain that the individual amounts would not be known until the ordinance is passed, however as an example, someone receiving \$20 per hour now, would receive \$1 more an hour with a 5% raise. Since Council has not yet decided on the amount of the raise, a definitive pay raises by dollar amount is not available.

Mayor Koster recognized Mrs. Beaumier. Mrs. Beaumier asked if Council paid an offset to those employees who did not take health care from the Village. Mr. Paquette replied that the Village did not. Mrs. Beaumier also asked about the clothing allowance. Mr. Paquette explained that the Street, Police, and Utilities department received a clothing allowance of approximately \$500 per person, although it may be lower.

Mr. Ronyak moved to adjourn at 8:05 PM and Mr. Boehnlein seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion was approved.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor/President Pro-Tem