

Burton Village Council Meeting
Minutes
November 26, 2018

Visitors: Todd Hicks, Jennell Dahlhausen, Rick Smigelski, Marcianne Kimpton, Jack Garner, Vince Crawford, Joe Kozial, Ann Weishart, Debbie Palmisano, Sharon Ronyak, Tom Erickson, Brian Wendl, Lisa Hernandez.

Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Roll Call:

Council: Ruth Spanos – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – no, Charles Boehnlein – Yes.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2018 as written, seconded by Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

The Mayor asked to amend the agenda to add Ordinance 2348-18, authorizing all actions necessary to accept the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Grants and declaring an emergency, to remove discussion on the land lease agreement with the Chamber of Commerce, and to add pending litigation to executive session. Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the November 26, 2018 agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Tom Blair – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes. Motion passed.

Mayors Report

The Mayor attended the parade for the Christmas Lighting Ceremony and all went well.

The Mayor stated the Street Department has been doing a great job keeping up with leaf collection.

The Mayor would like to have all comments for the Strategic Plan by December 15, 2018.

The Mayor reminded Council and residents that the Fire Department will be holding a meeting on November 29th to discuss a Fire District.

Standing Committees

Finance, Funding and Personnel Committee - Mr. Tromba and Ms. Spanos stated the Finance Committee met to review the 2019 Interim Budget. There were a few things that they asked to increase and felt the small increase for 2019 is reasonable. Ordinance 2347-18 addressing the Interim Budget is on the agenda for first reading.

Safety Committee – Mr. Brown was not available to report.

Police Department Report - Chief Smigelski reported there were 57 calls responded to by full time officers, 18 calls responded to by part time officers, 13 traffic stops and 2 arrests made in the month of October.

Fire Department Report – Chief Wendl provided a written report to Council and stated the Fire Department had 24 calls, of which 10 were at Burton Healthcare Center. He said Burton and Chardon Fire Departments applied for a FEMA grant to obtain some equipment and were approved.

The Mayor asked if the Fire Department can apply for a FEMA grant to fix the tornado siren. Chief Wendl said they are only permitted to apply a couple times a year but will apply when they are able next time.

Street Committee – Mr. Blair and Ms. Richards reported leaves are being collected and the Street Department is ready to plow snow.

Council Reports on Independent Boards and Commissions

Board of Public Affairs - Mr. Boehnlein stated the last meeting was held as a joint meeting but it is difficult for him to make Tuesday evening meetings.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Mr. Blair had nothing to report.

Cemetery Board – Ms. Richards said the Cemetery Board met to discuss special rates for multiple lot sales or veteran rates. The Board was opposed to special pricing for both inquiries.

The Cemetery Board voted to purchase premade foundations for veterans that are not able to afford a headstone. A plaque is available at no cost to the village.

The Cemetery Board is looking for an additional member to fill a vacant seat.

Historic District Architectural Review Board – Ms. Spanos stated there are two openings on the Board. A recent permit for replacement windows was approved by the Mayor due to the Board not having a quorum to meet.

Planning Commission – Mr. Blair had nothing to report.

Tree Commission – Ms. Richards said the Commission is reviewing the ordinances.

Arborist, Debbie Palmisano, stated she has requested a handheld device when out in the field for notes. This was added to the 2019 Interim Budget and she was hoping the device will be compatible with the Tree Tracker software. She spoke with the software company and they said there isn't any handheld devices that will be efficient with the process but they are willing to meet with her to give some recommendations on different alternatives to effectively take notes for Tree Tracker when in the field.

Ms. Palmisano has been in contact with the Village Engineer concerning the consideration of replanting trees after the Goodwin Avenue Project construction is complete. She has requested to be involved with the planning process.

The Tree Commission is also looking for a member to fill a vacant seat.

Berkshire Community Planning Association – The Mayor stated they will be meeting with the Fire Department later this week.

Geauga County Fair Board – Mr. Tromba had nothing to report.

Century Village – Ms. Spanos said the Century Village will be holding a Christmas Craft Show on December 1 & 2. The Board of Directors will meet December 7th.

Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Blair reported decorating and lighting ceremony went well.

Burton Historic District – Ms. Spanos stated the Historic District Association is planning their Chautauqua event for 2019, to be held at the Century Village.

The Burton Historic District is looking for grants to assist residents in work on their homes if their permit is approved by the Historic District Architectural Review Board.

Berkshire Board of Education – The Mayor attended the Board of Education meeting and reported there are plans to have the new school facility usable year round for events and possible parties.

Fiscal Officers Report

Ms. Dahlhausen provided a copy of the 2019 Interim Budget to Council and asked them to contact her with any questions or concerns.

Ms. Dahlhausen also provided the Expenditures, Encumbrances and Appropriations report to Council, which will be emailed from now on in replacement of the Summary of Revenue and Expenses report, as requested by the Finance Committee.

Solicitors Report:

Mr. Hicks had nothing to report.

Zoning Inspector's Report:

Mr. Gruber stated he had a slow month.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Hess was not available to report.

Invoice Approval

Mr. Blair moved to pay approved invoices, seconded by Mr. Boehnlein. Roll Call: Tom Blair – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Mayor Hernandez placed on first reading Resolution 2018-24, accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. Mr. Blair moved to waive further readings, seconded by Mr. Boehnlein. Roll Call: Tom Blair – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Hernandez placed on first reading Ordinance 2347-18, to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Burton, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

Mayor Hernandez placed on first reading Ordinance 2348-18, authorizing all actions necessary to accept the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grants and declaring an emergency. Mr. Boehnlein moved to waive further readings, seconded by Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Tromba. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Old Business

Ms. Hernandez presented several options for a new logo/letterhead to Council. She asked they let her know what they would like to proceed with or if they have any opinions.

Mayor would like to see a decision made by Council concerning the single trash hauler. He asked they either approve a bid or reject all bids.

Ms. Spanos stated she likes the fact that trash collection is cheaper if we use one single trash hauler. Ms. Hernandez added that she has the option to bill for trash collection monthly, quarterly or yearly. Several Council Members stated they would like to see if BPA decides to bill monthly as opposed to quarterly before they make their decision.

Mr. Crawford from Waste Management stated that costs for trash collection change and he would like to see a decision made this evening.

After much discussion, it was decided that Council would make a decision at their next meeting in December.

New Business

Discussion was held on rescheduling the December 24th meeting. Mr. Boehnlein moved to cancel the December 10th and 24th meeting and hold one meeting on December 17th at 7PM, seconded by Mr. Tromba. Roll Call: Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Hernandez stated the village can purchase their domain name for \$200. She has been completing an online class to help assist with making the village website ADA compliant. She has changed some of the colors on the website and started labeling some pictures. She would like to purchase Adobe Acrobat to assist with website uploads.

Mr. Garner said the new American Flag for the meeting room looks nice. Ms. Richards was thanked for purchasing the new flag and post.

Open Public Participation

Ms. Samuel stated she is part of the Chamber of Commerce Audit Committee and asked if there is legal proof the Chamber owns the log cabin. She doesn't want to see the village turn over the cabin with so much money and energy involved.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she would like to see the Chamber issue resolved.

Executive Session

Ms. Spanos moved to enter into executive session at 8:21 PM to discuss pending litigation, seconded by Mr. Boehnlein. Roll Call: Ruth Spanos – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Blair moved to exit executive session at 8:33 PM, seconded by Ms. Richards. Roll Call: Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Blair. By voice vote, the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor/President Pro Tem