

Burton Village Council Meeting
Minutes
August 26, 2019

Visitors: Todd Hicks, Jennell Dahlhausen, Chief Smigelski, Jack Garner, Ann Wishart, Dan Demko, John Stoddard, Beth McCaffery, John Manfredi, Jay Crafton, Chief Wendl, Debbie Palmisano.

Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Roll Call:

Ruth Spanos – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Charles Boehnlein – Yes.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Brown. Roll Call: Skip Boehnlein – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve the minutes of August 12, 2019, seconded by Ms. Richards. Roll Call: Skip Boehnlein – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Mayors Report

Mayor reported that he met with State Representative Diane Grendell, concerning possible assistance for the school project.

Mayor stated that Ruth Spanos is unopposed for the Mayor seat, as well as Skip Boehnlein and Gregory “Alex” Hansel for the two Council seats, all terms beginning in 2020. Mayor also mentioned the Chamber of Commerce will hold a Meet the Candidates Night on September 12th at Kent State Geauga. RSVP’s are required.

Standing Committees

Finance, Funding and Personnel Committee – Mr. Tromba and Ms. Spanos had nothing to report.

Police Department Report – Mayor thanked the Police and Fire Departments for a successful Safety Town. Chief Smigelski stated 64 kids attended.

Chief Smigelski stated the Police Department responded to 100 calls, there were 25 traffic stops and one arrest made in the month of July. The Police Department is ready for fair.

Fire Department Report – Chief Wendl reported the Fire Department had 69 calls for July.

Street Committee – Mr. Boehnlein stated the Street Department finished street striping and will begin sending out quotes for mill and fill work after the fair.

Council Reports on Independent Boards and Commissions

Board of Public Affairs – Mayor reported BPA approved a Utility Standards book for utility line requirements.

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

Cemetery Board – Ms. Richards had nothing to report.

Historic District Architectural Review Board – Ms. Spanos had nothing to report.

Planning Commission – Mr. Blair had nothing to report

Tree Commission – Ms. Richards stated the Tree Commission met and the next regular meeting was rescheduled for September 16th. Red Bud trees will be ordered for Arbor Day on October 12th. Ms. Palmisano mentioned the Chamber of Commerce gave a donation for maple tree preservation so she would like to get someone in to assess two older trees in the park.

Ms. Palmisano hoped there would be tree planting in the budget for Goodwin Ave but this wasn't thought of for the project.

Berkshire Community Planning Association – Mr. Brown had nothing to report.

Geauga County Fair Board – Mr. Boehnlein stated the fair is beginning this week.

Century Village – Ms. Spanos stated the Century Village held the Raccoon Festival.

Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Blair said the Chamber is doing some maintenance to the cabin. Part of the roof was replaced and they are now trying to preserve the wood shakes on the west side of the building.

Burton Historic District – Ms. Spanos had nothing to report.

Berkshire Board of Education – Mr. Tromba had nothing to report.

Geauga Growth Partnership – Mr. Boehnlein had nothing to report.

Fiscal Officers Report

Ms. Dahlhausen stated School Board Member Jody Miller contacted her to see if the candidates for School Board Member could speak at a meeting. Council referred her to the Chamber of Commerce Meet the Candidates event.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to approve blanket purchase orders for vendors that invoice the village monthly, for vendors that invoice annually and for uniform allowances, seconded by Ms. Richards. Roll Call: Skip Boehnlein – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Ms. Dahlhausen stated the Village has two safety deposit boxes; one at Huntington Bank for \$45 yearly and one at Middlefield Bank for \$30 yearly. We store important paper documents in these such as deeds. The box at Middlefield Bank is for the Cemetery but she feels we can fit all of the documents for both boxes in one and suggested going with Middlefield Bank, which is up for renewal at the end of August. The Huntington box is up for renewal in December so we would close this but there will be a \$20 fee since one of the keys is missing. Mr. Boehnlein moved to close the Huntington safety deposit box and pay the \$20 fee for the missing key, seconded by Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Skip Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Solicitors Report:

Mr. Hicks stated Hillside Village will be pursuing standard or traditional annexation through a request to the Geauga County Commissioners since the Village and Township couldn't come to an agreement.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Hess will begin surveying for the Goodwin Ave Improvement project next month. We will go for bid in the spring and the project should be complete by this time next year.

Zoning Inspector's Report:

Mr. Gruber stated there was a temporary sign at Burton Healthcare Center approved for the month of July and he is looking into some unlicensed vehicles.

There has been some interest from developers in the vacant property at the end of Carlton Street on Rapids Road.

Mr. Gruber asked to meet with Mr. Hicks and the Mayor at Ross Hornak's (the old Fox Inn) property concerning some landscape screening.

Invoice Approval

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

Ordinances and Resolutions

Mayor placed Resolution 2019-32, accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, on first reading.

Old Business

Mayor brought attention to the Berkshire School water tap-in request. Mr. Stoddard stated he has submitted everything and they need a decision by October. Council would like to determine how they are going to approach the issue with the ordinance before Mr. Hess determines tap-in fees and reviews the plans. It was mentioned all permits have been applied for and a site plan has

been submitted to EPA for approval. Mr. Hess stated the village needs to review a copy of this as well.

Ms. Dahlhausen also reminded Council we will need a deposit from the school before Mr. Hess reviews the plans. Mr. Stoddard stated they would provide a deposit once the tap-in request is approved.

Mr. Hicks asked Council if they would like to create a JEDD, modify the current ordinance or develop a revenue sharing agreement with the township. Mr. Blair feels it will be beneficial to look into the options more before a decision is made.

Ms. Richards stated we can look at what other services can be provided to the property.

Mr. Tromba is concerned with the amount of income tax the village will lose when the school moves to the township. Ms. Spanos agrees and would like to look at a possible agreement with the township in order to supply our utility services to the proposed school.

Mr. Manfredi stated the school plans have been ongoing for 5 years and he didn't understand why the request couldn't be approved this evening. Mr. Hicks explained the current ordinance in place will need to be amended to allow the extension so residents don't come back to the village and challenge the decision since the ordinance doesn't allow service to township properties anymore. Mr. Hicks added that if Council gives them approval for utilities, we don't have leverage for a revenue sharing agreement. A possible special meeting may be scheduled with the township and Kent State Geauga.

New Business

Mayor asked Council if they would like to advertise in the Berkshire Volleyball program for \$110. Mr. Boehnlein moved to advertise in the Berkshire Volleyball program for \$110, seconded Mr. Blair. Roll Call: Skip Boehnlein – Yes, Tom Blair – Yes, Bonnie Richards – Yes, Cory Brown – Yes, Ruth Spanos – Yes, Nick Tromba – Yes. Motion passed.

Open Public Participation

Mr. Garner asked why the village had previously mentioned annexation when discussing the schools tap-in request and now they are discussing other options. Mr. Hicks explained the current ordinance in place states that any properties outside the village requesting water and sewer service must be annexed. The village never stated they are going to annex these properties but mentioned this requirement of the ordinance. We can't annex this property because it isn't contiguous to the village.

Mr. Boehnlein moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tromba. By voice vote, the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor/President Pro Tem