

VILLAGE OF REPUBLIC

COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR SESSION

Held: January 3, 2012

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The REGULAR MEETING of VILLAGE OF REPUBLIC convened in regular session from 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. in the VILLAGE OFFICE, 219 WASHINGTON ST. Mayor Bruce Lambert called the meeting to order by leading with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was then taken with the following members and visitors present:

Mr. JOE SHAWBERRY	Present	Mrs. DARLENE HOEPF	Present
Mr. DAVE KIRIAN	Excused	Mr. MATT LUCIUS	Present
Mr. LARRY SHOCK	Present	Mr. JEFF LARICK	Present

EMPLOYEES Fiscal Officer Harer, Police Chief Marfia, and Village Administrator Trott
GUESTS: Resident: Michael Oberlander, Steve Aicholtz

AGENDA

Motion made by D. Hoepf to accept the agenda, seconded by L. Shock. All present vote yes.

MINUTES

Motion by D. Hoepf to accept the minutes from the previous and special meeting, seconded by M. Lucius. All present vote yes.

GUEST COMMENTS

No Guest Comments

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lambert created committees during the organizational meeting. He appointed "committee of the whole" as the Finance Committee and those meetings will be held after each regular council meeting. Mayor Lambert appointed himself as chair of this committee. Resident Michael Oberlander was welcomed to participate as part of this committee.

Personnel Committee: Jeff Larick (Chair), Joe Shawberry, and Dave Kirian.

Utility Committee: Larry Shock (Chair), Matt Lucius, Darlene Hoepf.

Tree/Youth Committee was not created.

Mayor Lambert addressed council of the need to pass rules of council. Two versions of these rules have been created each one created by different council members. Mayor Lambert felt the new version created by J. Larick was short, to the point, and supported by the Ohio Revised Code. Councilman M. Lucius asked if the Rules of Council could be tabled till next council meeting so he and rest of council had time to review and compare both versions. M. Lucius made motion to table this discussion; second by L. Shock all present approved; motion passes.

Mayor Lambert moved to appoint president pro-tem of council. Councilman M. Lucius made motion appointing councilman L. Shock as president pro-tem; second by D. Hoepf; in favor Lucius, Shock, Hoepf, apposed Larick, Shawberry. Motion passes 3 to 2 vote.

Mayor Lambert also addressed council of the Fiscal officer position. Currently this position consists of Fiscal Officer, Clerk of Courts, and Utility Billing Clerk. Lambert stated he has discovered some issues regarding this/these positions and would like to address some issues. Lambert stated the previous Village Solicitor James Gucker presented a letter stating that these positions should not be combined for check and balance reasons, and this information was supported by the Ohio Attorney General's office. Lambert stated Ronnie Trott Village administrator and his staff could take over this part of the day to day operation as far as processing and sending out the monthly utility statements. Lambert had been in contact with the Republic Bank and they are willing to accept all utility payments as they did in the past. However the cost for this service was not known. If this service is done by the Republic Banking Company they can only accept the amount due on the utility statement, no acceptations can be made. It was stated that the pay for the fiscal position would need to come from the general fund as before it was supported by the utility funds as utilities was part of the fiscal officer's position. Councilman L. Shock stated Administrator Trott should be involved in the hiring processes as they would be reporting to him. Lambert stated that was incorrect the Village Administrator has no control over the Fiscal Officer position what so ever. It is an official position of the village and is supervised by the mayor; who then will make sure that person is performing the job correctly. This position is an officer of the Village; always has been and always will be; we run under a statutory form of government. Councilwoman D. Hoepf expressed her feelings of involving Trott, as it is important to have people who can work well together. It was also stated the new billing software is running parallel with the old software and it appears things are

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running well; and Ronnie has been learning the new system and the new system should be up and running solo soon. It will take a year of service with the Village before the budget part can be utilized as there is no history in the new system and to manually enter this information would take quite some time. Further issues regarding the paying of Mayor's Court tickets, making the fiscal officer position salary with no set hours, at a part-time basis. Harer did state Mayor's Court and the Fiscal officer positions can be combined.

Friday January 6, 2012 a Personnel Committee Meeting was set to review resumes and to create job descriptions. Chief Marfia stated there is new computer software that will input all ticket citation which would eliminate the time it takes enter all the tickets for the Mayor's Court Clerk. This was just another option to consider.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Marfia gave the annual report of the Republic Police Department stating the department strives to improve and cut costs. There was a 35% increase in calls of service for 2011, in addition there were 599 citations wrote with 565 warning given, 172 criminal cases, collected \$10,000 + from Tiffin Municipal fines. Mayor's court generated \$54,000 in revenue for the Village. Income from the impound lot was less this year from years past due to law changes, and the department is looking for change again with the law and hoping to see an increase for 2012. All citation, investigations, and calls of service are broken down in the report. In closing Chief Marfia stated he is a person who continues to improve service at the same time cut costs. With that he asked council to create a Public Safety Committee to look into an opportunity that would provide the Village with the same police protection at the same time it could save the Village \$30,000.00. Mayor Lambert stated as the Executive Officer of the Village and Chief Marshal; No, absolutely not! That will be in the general rules he will be providing to Chief Marfia soon. Lambert stated "we will take care of Republic and they can take care of their towns".

SOLICITOR REPORT

No Solicitor report to come before council.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Trott advised council again he has been working on learning the utility billing system, learning both systems. A few street lights have been replaced and some transformers. Put together upcoming electrical projects for the up coming year, and just waiting on the snow to fall. Discharging at the sewer plant will continue January and February and that requires weekly testing and checking of the systems. Councilwoman D. Hoepf asked if we received final approval from the EPA on the permit. Trott stated that will be some time yet till we get the final approval.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Fiscal Officer Harer presented council with the year end Mayor's Court Report and the Cash Summary by Funds report. Also asked for a finance committee meeting to go over appropriations and close out the year.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS/FINANCIAL REPORTS

Council was presented with warrant for all of December. D. Hoepf made motion accepting the monthly warrants; second by M. Lucius, all present voted yes, motion passes.

COUNCIL (COMMITTEE) REPORTS

Councilman M. Lucius advised Tuesday January 10th at 6:00 P.M. there will be a Block Watch meeting at the Town Hall for everyone to attend.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

No Citizen's Comments to come before council.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before council.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman M. Lucius made motion to form a Public Safety Committee to explore the possibilities available at saving the village money; Second by D. Hoepf. Hoepf stated she feels this should be looked in to even if nothing comes from it we still have an obligation to save money if possible and for the benefit of our Village and other Villages around us. We need to look into it. We are not out anything by looking into this possibility. Larick stated that our town is getting smaller so we need to increase our government and we shouldn't be concerned with other Villages. We should just worry about our own Village. Hoepf feels that if other towns and Villages can work together to combine services it can be a benefit. She stated again it might not work but how will we know if we don't investigate or try? Mayor Lambert stated to Hoepf "it is a lousy idea, and you should investigate before passing a motion". Larick said he has talked with the people of Republic and they don't want

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more government, and that the people of Republic will be up in arms over this. He went on saying council would be surprised at what the people in this town have to say if you; go talk to them. Lucius stated we are here for the people and if we can save money why not listen; what will it hurt?

Councilman Larick asked if this issue could be tabled till next meeting; second by J Shawberry. All in favor of tabling issue Larick, Shawberry yes; Hoepf, Lucius no; Shock abstained. Mayor Lambert broke the time passing the motion to table this topic till next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No request for executive session.

LEGISLATION

No legislation to come before council.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before council, Councilman M. Lucius made a motion to adjourn, J. Larick second the motion. So moved. The meeting was adjourned till Monday January 16, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. at the VILLAGE OFFICE, 219 WASHINGTON ST.

Mrs. DARLENE HOEPF

EXCUSED

Mr. DAVE KIRIAN

Mr. JEFF LARICK

Mr. MATT LUCIUS

Mr. LARRY SHOCK

Mr. JOE SHAWBERRY

Fiscal Officer: TAMMY HARER

Mayor: BRUCE LAMBERT

All formal actions of the REGULAR MEETING of VILLAGE OF REPUBLIC concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.