

Village Council Meeting As  
A Committee of the Whole  
March 8, 2022  
6:30 PM

At 6:30 PM, President of Council Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Bob Keogh, Dennis Recker, Louann Artiaga, Richard Bingham, Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer, and Mindy Curry. Also present were the following: Mayor Don Atkinson, Administrator Jordan Daugherty, Director of Public Services Steve Pilcher, Police Chief Mark McDonough, Fire Chief Joshua Hartbarger, Planning Administrator Tiffany Bachmann, Clerk Susan Miller, Karen Gerhardinger, Julie Studer, Larry Yunker, Rita Yunker, Mona Snyder, Richard Wolf, and Amy Wolf.

Motion by Dennis Recker, seconded by Richard Bingham to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2022 meeting. 6 ayes

President of Council, Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer asked for Citizen Comment pertaining to Agenda items. There were none.

#### Finance

The first order of business was to discuss Options Regarding the Referendum.

- Vote yes to repeal the elimination of the income tax credit, vote no to eliminate the income tax credit
- No time limit to reintroduce legislation if the income tax credit is repealed in the election
- No cost to add legislation on the ballot in a general election
- Referendum is filed, legislation is suspended
- This is not a tax increase, it is elimination of a credit, not voted on originally, not voted on to eliminate
- Residents that live and work here are bearing the burden for people that work elsewhere
- Other areas have large commercial and industrial areas, many years have been spend Discussing how to go about this, the Village is quiet, taxes are lower, services are used Whether you're home or not, shop local, this is not a penalty, pay your part
- While not agreeing with the referendum, the committee is commended for taking action, the Village looking nice has been a 15 - 20 year journey, severe impact if the Village begins reducing line items, support for the legislation
- Go before the people on the ballot
- Need to do something, find out what people will support
- Right of referendum, ballot process, rescinding legislation defeats that process, people sign from a point of zero information, get facts to the public
- Put on the ballot, notified residents through all means possible, public knowledge out in the open, studies and surveys, not big box stores, still open for discussion
- Limited number of revenue sources by law, property tax, income tax reduction, income tax, no option is equal to all residents, 50 years no general fund increase, budget reports -

need to look at revenue sources, scrutinized every expense, carryover is an emergency fund, during COVID there was no reduction in services, the employees did more with less, JEDDs And JEDZ brought in around \$500,000, pushed the need to find more revenue down the road, legal constraints on all sources, Fire and Police Departments recognized, 100% made the right decision to move forward with the income tax credit elimination, This is a stabilization - not the fix, next step form a finance committee and look for the permanent solution, the Village has done everything to delay getting more revenue

- Many years behind this recommendation, hundreds of hours over 12 years, sacrificed immensely - do more with less, staff wearing many hats, well thought out and carefully planned, exodus of talent if this doesn't pass, been publicized for 12 years
- Approached problems like this in the past (water), make it equitable for everyone, cost the same for everyone, same service - same rate, police, fire, parks, beautification, streets, everyone pays the same rate
- Need to do what is right for the Village, consequences of this not going through, discuss at an upcoming Council meeting
- Budgets are lean, any reduction will be to services
- Multiple entities taxing residents, taxes should go to the municipality that provides the services, took the action the law permits us to take, short term stabilization, commercial and industry or tax increase
- No action on the Ordinance, referendum goes to the ballot

### Public Service

The next order of business was to discuss Refuse Bin Storage.

- Exterior maintenance code - behind the front of the building line and screened, not to be placed until 6:00 PM the night before and to be taken back by 6:00 PM the next day, placing bins out at the wrong time - first offense \$2.00, second offense \$4.00
- Complaint driven or enforcement, do not want to task staff with can patrol
- Put reminders in the water bills, see in 6 months
- Standard should be established, in favor of complaint driven
- Most people do something if brought to their attention, random enforcement
- People place it where it's convenient to get it down the driveway, take turns doing education Outreach, look at it with the rate and fee schedule
- Screens are inexpensive
- Complaints are addressed
- Attention to education, work together so this is a nice place to be, raising the fee for not putting the bins out at designated times, looking at times as some people are not home from work at 6:00 PM yet

Motion by Dennis Recker, seconded by Louann Artiaga to recommend to Council to amend code section 955 to remove garbage receptacles in a timely manner with suitable locations and penalties.  
6 ayes

Other items discussed:

- Residents didn't know about the income tax credit elimination, educate the public, 60% of the people are not going to be happy with the proposal, income tax credit elimination, income tax increase, property tax increase, double the signatures required for the Referendum, disappointed that legislation would be passed again if the referendum passes, Public forums, Facebook newsletters, village website, village email, budget estimates, add exhibits and memos online
- 40% of the residents carrying the burden
- What would the Financial impact on Citizen's with average income for the area with .5% income tax increase
- Look into a letter being sent to DeWine and Latta supporting suspending the gas tax at this time, some states have already done this, State of Ohio is \$.57/gallon in tax, not being within our realm of responsibility, road repairs are financed in different ways in different states
- Council President, Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer will be attending the June 21, 2022 Council Meeting remotely

Motion by Bob Keogh, seconded by Richard Bingham to adjourn at 8:29 PM. 6 ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Miller  
Clerk of Council