



**VILLAGE OF OBETZ  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 28, 2014**

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The Obetz Village Council met in regular session on July 28, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Obetz Government Center located at 4175 Alum Creek Drive with Mayor D. Greg Scott presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Scott called the roll with five members of Council present: Mrs. Bonnie Wiley, Mr. James Wiley, Mrs. Louise Crabtree, Mrs. Angie Kirk, and Mr. Michael Flaherty. Mr. Guiles Richardson was absent. Mayor Scott called for a motion to excuse Mr. Richardson. Motion made by Mrs. Kirk; seconded by Mr. Wiley. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes.

Also present were E. Rod Davisson, Administrator, Eve M. Ellinger, Law Director, Michael Confer, Chief of Police; and, Stacey Boumis, Community Services Director.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Scott called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 14, 2014. Motion made by Mrs. Crabtree; seconded by Mrs. Wiley. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes. The minutes of the July 14, 2014 meeting were approved.

**ORDINANCES**

**First Readings**

No first readings.

**Second Readings**

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 36-14 An Ordinance Modifying Obetz Code Section 149.04 Regarding Insurance Coverage. Mr. Davisson summarized Ordinance 36-14.

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 38-14 An Ordinance To Provide For A Contracting Procedure For Upgrades To The Obetz Electrical System, And To Declare An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed Ordinance 36-14 and the electrical needs of the Village.

**Third Readings**

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 32-14 An Ordinance Repealing Obetz Code Section 139.08 And Modifying Obetz Code Section 139.09. Mayor Scott summarized Ordinance 32-14. Mayor Scott called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 32-14. Motion made by Mrs. Kirk; seconded by Mrs. Wiley. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes.

## **Emergencies**

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 40-14 An Ordinance To Provide For A Contracting Procedure For Upgrades To The Obetz Water System, And To Declare An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed Ordinance 40-14. Mayor Scott called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 40-14. Motion made by Mrs. Wiley; seconded by Mrs. Crabtree. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes. Mayor Scott called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 40-14. Motion made by Mrs. Wiley; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes.

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 41-14 An Ordinance Declaring The Official Intent And Reasonable Expectation Of The Village Of Obetz On Behalf Of The State Of Ohio (The Borrower) To Reimburse Its OPWC Frusta McGaw Grant Fund Appropriations, Fund Number 4908800-555, For The Industrial Park Roadway Reconstruction, CC06R, With The Proceeds Of Tax Exempt Debt Of The State Of Ohio, And To Declare An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed Ordinance 41-14. Mayor Scott called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 41-14. Motion made by Mrs. Wiley; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes. Mayor Scott called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 41-14. Motion made by Mrs. Wiley; seconded by Mr. Wiley. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes.

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 42-14 An Ordinance To Approve Additional 2014 Appropriations For The Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The Village Of Obetz. Mr. Davisson discussed Ordinance 42-14. Mayor Scott called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 42-14. Motion made by Mr. Wiley; seconded by Mrs. Crabtree. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes. Mayor Scott called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 42-14. Motion made by Mr. Wiley; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Wiley – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mrs. Crabtree – yes; Mrs. Kirk – yes.

## **Tabled**

Ordinance 25-14 remained tabled.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Recreation and Health (Council Member Kirk)* – Mrs. Kirk stated that the U10 Black team placed second in the Teays Valley softball tournament. Bocce ball is underway. Football camp was held last week and cheerleading camp is July 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Wiley thanked all the volunteers. She encouraged people to continue volunteering.

*Safety and Streets (Council Member Crabtree)* – No report.

*Public Utilities (Council President Pro-Tem Flaherty)* – No report.

*Finance (Council Member J. Wiley) – No report.*

*Legislation (Council Member Richardson) – No report.*

*Planning and Zoning Commission (Council Member B. Wiley) – No report.*

**VILLAGE OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

*Mayor Scott* – Mayor Scott stated that the movie on Saturday was canceled due to rain. The Zucchini-fest is twenty-four days away. Mrs. Dyer stated that there are issues with kids on bicycles annoying patrons at the splash pad. Mayor Scott, Council, and Mr. Davisson discussed the proposed improvements to the splash pad. Mr. Davisson stated that he is preparing a plan to address the issues that are occurring at the splash pad.

Mrs. Wiley inquired about utility bills. Mr. Davisson stated that there are a group of people that have been shut off for a while and a small number that get shut off every month. He stated that he is working on the payment program.

*Eve M. Ellinger, Law Director* – Ms. Ellinger discussed repayment for damages done to a light pole. Mr. Davisson discussed light poles in the Village. Mayor Scott stated that Council should consider turning off the cobra head lights on the historic side. The lights are owned by AEP. The Village pays a monthly charge to have them.

*J. Michael Confer, Police Chief* – Chief Confer stated that Block Watch is meeting on Wednesday at 6:00 PM.

*Stacey Boumis, Council Clerk* –No questions for Ms. Boumis.

*E. Rod Davisson, Esq., Administrator/Economic Development Director* – No questions for Mr. Davisson.

*Hamilton Township Fire Department* – Firefighter John Blankenship reported the progress of the fan drive. To date, forty-six fans have been collected; thirty-one fans have been distributed. There is also a carbon dioxide detector drive underway. Run volumes continue to grow.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Laurie Lyles, residing at 3590 Toy Road, addressed Council. She complained about the semi-truck traffic on the unimproved section of Toy Road. She wants Council to dead end Toy Road just after east of the intersection of Toy Road and Centerpoint Parkway. Mayor Scott addressed Ms. Lyles. He stated that truck traffic is a big issue in the region. Mr. Davisson stated that Obetz as well as Groveport, Madison Township, Franklin County, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission are studying truck traffic in the area to develop a regional

solution. Mayor Scott, Council, Chief Confer, and Mr. Davisson discussed this issue. Ms. Lyles stated that the County Engineer has completed a study for Madison Township. Firefighter John Blankenship stated that it is important to evaluate the public safety impacts of closing a road.

Courtney Kenzey, residing at 4416 Trotter Drive, addressed Council. She stated that feral and stray cats have destroyed her landscaping and patio furniture. The neighbors are feeding the feral and stray cats which attract them to the area. She stated something needs to be done to control the feral and stray cat population in Obetz. Mrs. Kirk stated that she has the same issue in her neighborhood. Mrs. Wiley stated that poisoning and harming animals is a criminal offense. The problem is people don't get their pets spayed and neutered. Mr. Davisson addressed Council. He stated that Obetz' current regulations do not permit cats to run at large. He stated that Ms. Boumis and Mr. Fischer are reviewing Chapter 505 of the Codified Ordinances and working on new regulations.

Council took a break at 7:23 pm and reconvened at 7:34 pm with all five members of Council present.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Amy Bethel of Peebles Creative Group addressed Council. She stated that the Village is undertaking a rebranding effort and that she was here tonight to gather input from Council.

Question 1. What words or attributes do you use to describe how the Village of Obetz brand is perceived today by residents, business owners and those doing business in the area? What adjectives would you use to describe how you'd like to see the Village of Obetz brand be perceived in the future?

Council members stated that the brand was not viewed in a positive way; however it is becoming more positive. The brand needs to show people connected and doing things together.

Obetz was someplace you drove through. People don't know where Obetz is. There was nothing here to look at. It was a bedroom community. Now there is a reason for people to come here. Obetz has old town values with state of the art capabilities.

Obetz is perceived as a poor community with nothing to offer. The old town is run down. Council members would like to see is perceived as an up and coming community with a small town feel but close to Columbus. Obetz is centrally located. Council wants the small town values preserved and an identity that lets people know they are in Obetz.

Question 2. What makes Obetz unique? What do you think are the Village of Obetz' greatest strengths?

Council responded Rickenbacker; the people; location; history of the railroad; availability of undeveloped land; good roads and parks; lots of opportunity; access and location; affordable

place to live; people help one another; small town feel; close knit community; up and coming; access to the freeway.

Question 3. What values and offerings do you associate with the Village of Obetz?

Council responded good employees in the Village; people helping each other; people have lived here a long time; hard work and the benefits that come with it.

Question 4. What makes doing business in the Village of Obetz different than any other area in central Ohio?

Council responded incentives; access to Rickenbacker; willingness of Council to work with businesses; accommodating and flexible; don't stick people with things they don't have to do.

Question 5. Are there any weaknesses or perceptions/misconceptions impacting opportunities, awareness and your ability to attract new residents and new businesses to the area?

Council responded low income base; hillbilly perception; poor community; need to get the word out that there are jobs here; can live, work, and play here; nothing here for people to do.

Question 6. What symbols, buildings, places, businesses, events in and around the Village of Obetz do you consider to be iconic?

Council responded the church on Groveport Road; the cemetery; Zucchini-fest; Niemann historic house; Obetz Athletic Club; Obetz Conference Center; splash pad.


Question 7. Are there any preferences, mandatories or "do not do's" that we should be aware of? Things we need to preserve of the current Village of Obetz brand?

Council members responded no ducks; don't need to preserve the existing logo.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Scott called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Flaherty; seconded by Mrs. Wiley. All ayes. Motion carried. Council adjourned at 8:32 PM.

  
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D. Greg Scott, Mayor

  
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Stacey E. Boumis, Clerk