

**VILLAGE OF OBETZ
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**



REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2020

Council met in Council Chambers at 4175 Alum Creek Drive on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Angela M. Kirk presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Kirk called the roll with all six Council members present. Mr. Michael Flaherty – present; Mr. Robert Kramer – present; Mr. Guiles Richardson – present; Mrs. Bonnie Wiley – present; Mr. Derek Varney – present; Mr. Mike Kimbler – present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting. Motion made by Mr. Varney; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Varney – yes; Mrs. Wiley – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes.

ORDINANCES

First Readings

No first readings.

Second Readings

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 19 – 20: An Ordinance Approving The Final Plat For Section 5 Of The Butler Farms Subdivision. A member of the public in attendance, name not given, asked Mayor Kirk what the Ordinance means. Mayor Kirk replied that this is part of the building process. She further stated that this is the final approval needed to begin construction in this part of the subdivision and that there are six sections total.

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 20 – 20: An Ordinance To Approve The Preliminary Development Plan And Development Text For Parcel 186-002023. Mayor Kirk stated that the public hearing would be at the next reading.

Third Readings

No third readings.

Emergencies

No emergencies.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kirk stated that the Village has been working to get things safely opened around the Village while continuing the day to day operations. The splashpad will be opening July 1st.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Programming – Mike Kimbler, Chair

Mr. Kimbler stated that Bally Sports Group will be running youth flag football. Registrations are currently open for tackle football and cheerleading. Registrations close on July 1st.

Fortress Obetz, Regional Recreation and Events – Derek Varney, Chair

Mr. Varney stated that activities at the Fortress are resuming. He reviewed the Fortress calendar. He stated that Mr. Adams would like to start QFM 96 Bike Nights on July 9th. The rule of thumb is if an event is on the Fortress Facebook calendar then the event is on.

Development – Mike Flaherty, Chair

No report.

Intergovernmental Outreach – Robert Kramer, Chair

Mr. Kramer stated that a Thorton's is being constructed in Groveport. It will be across the street from Love's. He further stated that the stop sign at the intersection of Creekside Parkway and Rohr Road is being blocked by trees.

Neighborhood Preservation and Beautification – Bonnie Wiley, Chair

Mrs. Wiley stated that she met with Jess Griffith, Grounds Superintendent. He reviewed the short and long term projects with her. She provided Council with a summary provided by Mr. Griffith. She further stated that they are a busy group.

Public Works and Safety – Guiles Richardson, Chair

Mr. Richardson stated that the Engineer was reviewing the Redwood traffic study. The Service Department is busy filling potholes and trimming around roads. Work on the Alum Creek Drive bridge over the Big Walnut Creek will begin this summer. He also stated that the mosquitos in Mulberry Grove are bad due to the pond. The Consumer Confidence Reports are on this month's utility bills. There are no Ohio Environmental Protection Agency violations.

ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

E. Rod Davisson, Esq., Administrator – Mr. Davisson stated that the Village has requested an extension on filing the 2021 tax budget until the Village has solid numbers. The Village expects solid income tax numbers the first week of July. Currently the Village audit is underway. He then stated he needs to know Council's thoughts on rentals. The number of COVID cases has started to increase again. He stated that facilities will not likely be ready in July but could be ready in August. He anticipates rules loosening up after July 4th. He further stated that a member of the OAC tested positive for COVID and was in the facility two days last week. The facility is operating at triple the cost and is closing down in the middle of the day for cleaning. There is nothing else the Village can do. If the facility is open, expect that there are people there with COVID. There are people that are asymptomatic. Gyms are dangerous because people are breathing heavy. The Village has done everything we can do but we can't stop someone who is sick from walking through the door. We either accept that fact or shut down the OAC.

A member of the audience, name not given, asked if the Village was having fireworks on July 4th. The Mayor stated that the park will be closed. The Administrator stated that the Village ordered high-flying fireworks. There cannot be a gathering of people. It is against the news. The fireworks will be let off in Memorial Park.

Council discussed opening facilities in July. Council determined that other facilities should not be opened in July.

Stephen Smith, Esq., Frost Brown Todd – Mr. Smith stated that he and the Administrator have been working to update the mail policy. He further stated that the Village opens every piece of mail that comes in to make sure there are no urgent matters or public records requests.

Michael Confer, Police Chief — Chief Confer stated that calls for service are down. There were only 493 calls for service. Things are down by as much as 75 – 80 percent. There are a lot of crashes right now with more people coming back to work. Mr. Smith stated that there is state legislation pending to legalize fireworks, but cities can pass local legislation prohibiting them.

Stacey Boumis, Community Services Director – Ms. Boumis stated that there is a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting July 8th. She further stated that there are six code enforcement cases pending in Mayor's Court; 49 violations have been written. A violation is only written if friendly reminders have been ignored. Mr. Geho, the code enforcement officer, has closed 26 cases in the last few months including the case at Grebus and Rathmell.

Mr. Davisson stated that the next Charter Commission meeting will be July 20th. The meeting scheduled for next week is canceled.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mr. David Humphrey addressed Council. He stated that the stop signs on Lancaster Avenue have forced traffic on the other side streets because people are trying to avoid the stop signs. He suggested changing the stop signs on those other streets to mirror the stop signs on Lancaster Avenue.

Emily and Alex Shirkey addressed Council. They stated that they had sent a letter to Mayor Kirk asking the Mayor about the laws regarding a pet duck. Their parents told them a pet duck was against the laws of the Village. The children asked Council to change the rules regarding chickens and ducks. They stated that they talked to the neighbors and none of the neighbors are against it. Mayor Kirk stated that Emily and Alex had sent her a letter asking her to change the laws, but she told them she could not change the laws and that they had to ask Council. Mr. Varney stated that he is not sure of what it takes to own a duck or the implications to the neighbors. Mr. Davisson recommended that Council review the existing

rules regarding animals and then discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Smith stated that variances cannot be granted. He further stated that he can help create rules if Council wants to allow certain farm animals on urban lots. Certain animals don't fit well in city life which is why most communities prohibit them. Mayor Kirk thanked the children for coming and going through the correct process to change the laws.

Mary Stickel (she did not come to the microphone so comments are not audible on the recording) asked about the fence around the Community Center. Mayor Kirk provided an update. She stated that the fence was going to be replaced next year. She stated that Mr. Horner wanted to install a split rail fence so the Village was not going to install a new fence; however Mr. Horner has changed his mind. A four foot chain link fence will be installed on the east side. The property lines have been marked. Mayor Kirk stated that the fencing was not going to be replaced due to cost and the fact that Mr. Horner wanted a split rail fence. Mary Stickel stated she wants the fencing replaced.

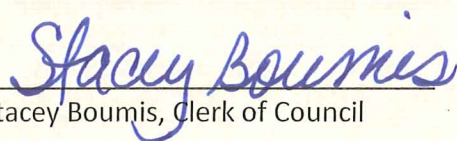
Kaylynn Thacker addressed Council. She inquired about a dog park. Mayor Kirk stated that it has been discussed. A final location has not been determined. Mr. Davisson stated that a dog park will not be constructed this year. Council must determine how big and where a dog park will be. There is no good central place for one.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mrs. Wiley; seconded by Mr. Kramer. All ayes. Council adjourned at 6:55 PM.



Mayor Angela M. Kirk



Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council