

**VILLAGE OF SOUTH LEBANON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

May 20, 2021

6:30 P.M.

1. Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge.

2. ATTENDANCE

Linda Allen – Present

Linda Burke – Present

Bryan Corcoran – Present

Maryan Harrison – Present

Bill Madison – Present by phone

Rolin Spicer – Present

3. Mayor Smith opened the floor to the public.

Rich Bertagna updated Council on the approval of South Lebanon joining the Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce. Bertagna stated that he will be a board member starting the first part of July when they have their next full board meeting; he will be given a board seat with voting rights to represent South Lebanon.

Bertagna asked for Chamber signage to be added to the Village's website and to the new Municipality Building sign. Mayor Smith stated that would be no problem. Bertagna clarified with Mayor Smith that he was wanting to get some press releases out on all the good things happening in South Lebanon to which the Mayor Smith agreed.

Bertagna explained to the Council that he put together one small press release with a Village challenge at the bottom. Bertagna read the press release and the council applauded it. Bertagna stated that for the Village challenge it would be a one-day challenge for people who could patronize every one of the merchants that are listed within a 24-hour period; the one that does the most and finishes first will get a prize. Bertagna commented that it would be good to get the news involved with this and then have either a \$1,000 or \$5,000 prize. Bertagna explained that the way to do this is to give the businesses a rubber Village stamp and have them stamp their business receipt then at the end of the day whoever finishes first and patronizes all the businesses that are listed wins. Mayor Smith asked how you would fund it to which Bertagna remarked that he was hoping the Village would have a reserve fund. There was some discussion amongst the Council regarding funding. Bertagna stated that maybe they could tie this in with McDonald's opening and he then noted that the higher the prize the more the local news will pick it up and the more patronage we will have. Mayor Smith commented that he would talk to McDonald's and see about tying it in to their grand opening and see if they would make a donation. Burke remarked that if they could get ten businesses to donate \$500 then they would have it. Mayor Smith stated that \$1,000 would be more realistic because you may not have that many buy ins from some of the stores. Bertagna remarked the more the better. Bertagna further stated that he sees it all ending at the Cartridge Factory and with McDonald's opening at 5:00 a.m. this could all be over in a couple of hours. Madison stated that he did like Bertagna's idea, but it might be better

hosted from the newly formed South Lebanon Chamber as an event they are putting on rather than the Council. Bertagna responded that it was a good point, and he would ask the Chamber Director. Mayor Smith stated that he would speak with Andrew Meier and see what our liabilities are.

Mayor Smith praised Bertagna for his work for the Village.

Pastor Josh Butler with the Kings Point Church of God (5600 State Route 48, Maineville, OH 45039) wanted to thank the Council and to get help with finding things for people to do. Butler commented that he has volunteers and beginning on Wednesdays he has “Wednesday Warriors”, and he needs to find things for them to do. Butler stated that he is a product of South Lebanon, and he wants to give back, for better unity we must help our community. Butler remarked that they want to be involved, extra hands and feet for the Village. Butler commented that he would love to co-sponsor the event Bertagna spoke about. Butler notified that Council that they are looking into opening a thrift store and starting a private Christian school (Kings Christian Academy), and after months of research this will be presented to the congregation on Sunday. Butler stated that the church will be celebrating 100 years on August 29 at Kings Point.

Mayor Smith shared the passing of two good leaders, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Halcomb.

Mayor Smith asked Pastor Butler if he would give a prayer to which he did.

Mayor Smith informed that Council that he has spoken with a company that may make a sizeable donation to the Veterans Park; enough to where it would cover the flags, mountings, and the poles. The goal is to get it down to just the monuments.

Mayor Smith closed the floor to the public.

4. ORDINANCE 2021-10 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ACCEPTING FOR PUBLIC MAINTENANCE ALONG SHEPHERD’S WAY IN SHEPHERDS CROSSING SUBDIVISION SECTION 3, IN THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH LEBANON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas. By title only, Ordinance 2021-10, a motion to adopt was made by Allen, seconded by Burke, all yeas.

5. ORDINANCE 2021-11 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ACCEPTING FOR PUBLIC MAINTENANCE ALONG SHEPHERD’S WAY IN SHEPHERDS CROSSING SUBDIVISION SECTION 4, IN THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH LEBANON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas. By title only, Ordinance 2021-11, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.

6. RESOLUTION 2021-17 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING FOR CONSULTING ENGINEER SERVICES FOR REQUIRED INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF AUBURN GROVE SUBDIVISION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Allen, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2021-17, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

7. AUTHORIZATION OF INVOICES

A motion to authorize the invoices for payment (\$94,077.74) was made by Corcoran, seconded by Harrison, all yeas.

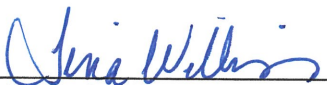
8. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

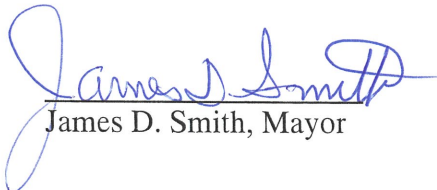
A motion to approve the financial statements was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.

9. Mayor Smith remarked that the sign is up and waiting on the cap; a local contractor did the base. Mayor Smith stated that we have some quotes for an elevator, and it looks like we will be getting some additional money. The same company that put in the elevator for the Powder Plant should be giving us a complete quote, this should be in a range that is fundable. Mayor Smith thanked Bertagna and Pastor Butler for what they have done and praised Tina Williams for what she has accomplished in a short time.
10. Williams thanked Mayor Smith for his comments, further stating that she is getting her bearings and is looking forward to where the Village is going.
11. Meier remarked that Madison had raised an issue as to whether a Councilmember could serve on the Chamber of Commerce board and whether that would be a conflict of interest; he feels that it is a nonissue not that Bertagna is on the board.
12. Meier stated that another issue raised was from a member from the community related to solicitors in neighborhoods. Meier did speak with Jerry Haddix some and his understanding is that there is a list that contains all the vendors/individuals/businesses that have obtained the appropriate permit to solicit. That list will be posted on the Village website and available to members of the public. We have adopted the Ohio basic code provisions and in those provisions are specific requirements for soliciting in the Village. It is now a matter of the community notifying us of what is going on so that we can take care of it.

13. Meier commented on the topic of the commercial trailer that is hauling and storing vehicles and parking on a particular street and the truck attached to it with out of state tags. The issue is whether we can take some action to regulate parking on that street. Meier reviewed past ordinances along with administrative and basic code provisions; his conclusion is that we cannot totally prohibit parking on this street. There is probably a way we can deal with the issue, but he will have to investigate it a little more because the requirements the Village would have to follow are very specific, we have the ability to regulate parking in the Village, but we have to be sure we are not running afoul of any regulations that would allow certain vehicles to park in certain areas. Any regulation that we try to enact will have to be very specific and limited. Meier stated he would work with Haddix on attempting to craft some legislation that would allow us to do what we need to do to fix a problem.
14. Meier stated that the general issue that was raised by Madison relating to a fire code. There is a comprehensive Ohio Fire Code and the Ohio Administrative Code, there are also provisions in the Basic Code. Meier stated that we are required to follow it and we will. Burke asked what the issue had been with the fire code to which Meier stated that Madison was wanting to know that status of the code and if there were any specific emergency response provisions. Madison replied that specifically he was concerned around the food mart in town and residential streets where there are no businesses.
15. Haddix commented that the sign is being stored in Lebanon behind the Golden Lamb and that the new building lights have been installed on the front of the building from the roofline down. Mayor Smith stated that the contractor who put the lights in worked with us to install the electric to fit our needs upstairs for the future renovations.
16. Haddix stated that Auburn Grove, at the end of Cochran Road, should break ground next week and it will be another 42 homes.
17. Haddix remarked that next Wednesday, May 26, 2021, is the Planning Commission meeting to discuss the public hearing for the rezoning of the Creedon annexation. Also, the Regional Planning Commission will be there to review the Comprehensive Plan update; after the recommendations are made it will come back here.
18. Haddix shared that Waffle House should be breaking ground next week and McDonald's is planning on opening mid-June.
19. Haddix stated that the Veterans banners are beginning to be hung today. A boom truck was rented for a couple of weeks to aid in this task as well as tree trimming and building cleaning.
20. Haddix informed that the county Transportation Improvement District, one of their projects is the interchange study for State Route 48 and Interstate 71. The engineer for the county had a preliminary stakeholder meeting to get the communities input on what they perceive the problems are at that interchange. There will be some survey work being done at that interchange.

21. Haddix stated that he will need a head count for the Municipal League dinner on June 9, 2021, at the Mason Golf Center; J. D. Vance will be the speaker.
22. Mayor Smith shared that the food truck event was nice and successful.
23. Jeff Boylan shared that the boom truck is saving them a lot of time and is great for safety more than anything.
24. Sgt. Adams reported that everything is going well, very calm.
25. Corcoran thanked Pastor Butler for coming out and thanked Bertagna for stepping up with the Chamber. Corcoran passed around a mailing from the Warren County Chamber Alliance to show where we are heading.
26. Burke thanked both Pastor Butler and Bertagna, stating that it is so good to see our community working together.
27. Allen stated that the enthusiasm excites the Council. Allen also questioned the ability to pay the water bill electronically. Haddix remarked that we are looking into it, and it is something that we need to work on. Allen mentioned an email the Council received where they stated that they pay every bill online except for the water bill and they had forgotten about it and then they got the late bill. Allen continued stating that we are going to be a city in a year, and this would be something to help our residents. Mayor Smith stated that we are also looking at payroll and making it bi-weekly and eventually direct deposit. Allen asked if they had decided to move forward with the Assistant Fiscal Officer position to which Mayor Smith stated they had.
28. Harrison thanked everyone and then invited all to come out on Saturday, the Historical Society has flags, to show respect for our hero, Mr. Halcomb, as he goes through town to his final resting place. South Lebanon has always been known as the most patriotic town in Warren County and we want to continue this. Mayor Smith added that the funeral is at 1:00 p.m. and should be on the road by 1:30 p.m.
29. Mayor Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. A motion was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.


Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer


James D. Smith, Mayor

For an audio copy of the May 20, 2021, minutes of the Village of South Lebanon Council regular meeting, please contact Fiscal Officer twilliams@southlebanonohio.org.