

# *The Village of Walton Hills*

## *Committee of the Whole Meeting*

Date: January 12, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Council Chambers

Mayor Hurst called the meeting to order. The roll call was taken by Katie Iaconis. Present: Councilpersons Denny Linville, Mary Brenner-Miller, Paul Rich, Gloria Terlosky, Don Kolograf and Brian Spitznagel. Administration present: Katie Iaconis, Assistant Fiscal Officer; Blair Melling, Law Solicitor.

### Action Taken and/or Recommendations:

#### Persons Having Business Before Council – None

Council Comments / Council Committees – Councilman Kolograf asked Council if they wanted to switch committees or keep the same committee assignments as last year. All Council members wished to remain on their current committees. Councilman Rich suggested that information on the Metroparks deer herd reduction receive more publicity; Mayor Hurst indicated that it has been placed on the Village website for the past five years. Councilwoman Brenner-Miller read the Recreation Department report into record. Ms. Iaconis added that Carol Stanoszek arranged for all of the buses to be aligned and all of them checked out. Councilman Spitznagel read the Service Department's report into record. Mayor Hurst discussed the recent purchase and placement of four solar lights that flash once the temperature drops below thirty degrees.

Resolution Accepting Grant for the Dellwood Water Main Replacement Project – Mayor Hurst explained that he needs to accept this grant to get the project to replace asphalt, curbs and waterlines completed. He indicated that the Village's portion of this project will be \$94,000, and legislation would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for approval.

Resolution for the Resurfacing of Northfield Road - Mayor Hurst explained that Mr. Gigliotti is still trying to secure language about the locations of Sagamore Road/Northfield Road and Alexander/Northfield Road; therefore the resolution would be placed on the Council meeting agenda for First Reading and hopefully passed in February. He noted that this resurfacing will be completely done by ODOT. A brief discussion followed on the problem area where Sagamore Road blends into Northfield Road.

Discussion of Ordinance 260 – Mayor Hurst stated that this ordinance reflects a 2% increase in the wage rates for Street Commissioner, Recreation Director, Police Chief and Captain to which Council already gave their consent. He indicated that it would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for suspension.

Discussion on Law Solicitor and Prosecutor Positions – Mayor Hurst discussed Bill Mason's compensation, which will be paid to his law firm and not subject to withholding or OPERS contribution. He noted this legislation would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda. Councilman Rich praised the two candidates considered for the position of law solicitor. Councilmen Spitznagel, Linville and Kolograf expressed their appreciation for Mr. Melling's service. The legislation and salary for Blair Melling as prosecutor was discussed. Mayor Hurst noted that Mr. Mason's legislation would appear on the next Council meeting agenda after the roll call, and then he would be sworn in.

Discussion on Fiscal Officer Position – Mayor Hurst explained that Mr. Nogalo would be moved into the Tax Administrator position and Katie Iaconis would become the Fiscal Officer as discussed and supported in Executive Session. Council did not feel it necessary to further discuss these moves in Executive Session. Mayor Hurst indicated that this issue would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

Resolution Reappointing Dan Stucky as Street Commissioner – Mayor Hurst explained that Council agreed in Executive Session that Mr. Stucky should receive a 2% raise. He noted that this resolution would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for approval.

Resolution Reappointing Carol Stanoszek as Recreation Director – Mayor Hurst stated that everyone agreed with Mrs. Stanoszek’s reappointment in Executive Session, which includes a 2% raise. He noted that this resolution would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

Resolution for Annual Internet Sales – Mayor Hurst explained that this legislation has been voted on every year since 2007 and would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for suspension.

Modification of CRA Ordinance and Housing Board - Mayor Hurst stated that the modification to the ordinance clarifies the abatement period, percentage of real property tax abatement and what justifies new residential construction. He discussed his recommendations for the composition of the Housing Board, which he would like to have in place before the end of February.

Resolution Modifying Payment for Village Hall Parking Lot Improvements – Mayor Hurst explained that additional work was needed on this project, which cost an extra \$3,100. He pointed out that Council agreed to this additional amount at the last meeting, and this resolution would be placed on the next Council meeting agenda for suspension.

Motion to Go into Executive Session - Mayor Hurst suggested if Council is comfortable with what has been discussed, there would be no need for Executive Session; Council was in agreement.

Other Business – Ms. Iaconis reviewed the latest Report 52, which indicated that the deficit last year was \$172,704.86. She noted that there would have been a surplus if payments for Sagamore Road had been received before the end of the year. She stressed that overall, it was a very good year and this year will be good as well. Mayor Hurst discussed Arhaus Furniture’s hiring of another 200 people for their Boston Heights facility and indicated that a large percentage of that payroll should be kept in Walton Hills. Ms. Iaconis discussed the public records request she sent to the State to find out everyone that was paid in the JEDD. Mayor Hurst discussed the four police officers who left the Village and the auxiliary officer that was just sworn in as a part-time officer. Councilman Spitznagel suggested hiring older, retired persons as part-time or auxiliary officers as constant training is costly. Mayor Hurst stated there are still twelve full-time officers and he doesn’t anticipate hiring any more full-time officers. He noted that there is a consideration to “double badge,” or hire someone part-time that is already part-time somewhere else.

Councilwoman Brenner-Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Rich, and six ayes approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.