

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of the
Village of Walton Hills, Ohio held Tuesday
June 20, 2017 at 6:11 p.m. in the
Village Hall Council Chambers at 7595 Walton Road

Mayor Hurst called the meeting to order. Mayor Hurst starts the Pledge of Allegiance. This is followed by a moment of silence for our Military men and women in service and our deceased residents Patricia Bosway, Rita Charsanko, and James Pund. The roll call was then taken by Ms. Iaconis. Councilpersons present were Denny Linville, Mary Brenner-Miller, Paul Rich, Gloria Terlosky, Don Kolograf, and Brian Spitznagel. Mayor Hurst also asks for the record to show that Law Solicitor Bill Mason is present, as well as Fiscal Officer Katie Iaconis.

ITEM F: MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE COUNCIL CAUCUS MINUTES FROM JUNE 20, 2017: Councilman Kolograf makes a motion to receive and file Council Caucus minutes of JUNE 20, 2017, seconded by Councilman Linville. No questions or comments. Six ayes approved.

Councilwoman Brenner-Miller makes a motion to excuse the July 4, 2017, COW meeting. Seconded by Councilman Linville. No questions or comments. Six ayes approved.

ITEM G: PERSONS HAVING BUSINESS BEFORE COUNCIL: Mayor Hurst gives the opportunity for any resident who would like to come forward and ask questions of council or myself at this meeting. Mitch Styndl from 17357 Andras Drive stands and introduces himself. He asks council several questions pertaining to inside millage.

Ray Tinter from 18405 Jefferson Drive stands and introduces himself. He makes several suggestions regarding road repairs.

Mary Alice Moran 7500 Linda Lane stands and introduces herself. She makes several comments about the safety of the community and our police department.

Josephine Wardel – 1785 Egbert Road stands and introduces herself. She comments on the failed tax levy.

Karen Reming – 17595 Alexander Road stands and introduces herself. She makes comments regarding potential budgetary cuts.

MAYOR'S REPORT AND COURT REPORT: Mayor Hurst states that he was unable to get the court report. He lost it in his computer. He will give it to them as a hard copy in their mailbox. Everything was the same as last month, but he did not have a chance to print it out. Miscellaneous, just for everyone's comments, at 4:56 p.m. today, we got word that there will be a Western Reserve Hike and Bike Trails down by Alexander Road by First Energy on July 29, 2017 where there will be approximately 500 runners and bicyclists coming through there between 7:40 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. We will have some auxiliary police officers out there. Mayor Hurst gives the council a copy of this so they have it for their records.

ITEM I: COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Hurst makes a few comments to answer questions posed by residents. He turns the microphone over to the council to make their comments.

Councilman Linville comments that he would not vote for inside millage simply because when he ran for office, he promised the people that he would not raise their taxes. Therefore, he will not vote for inside millage. In terms of other comments that were made, with respect to the Sagamore citizen, I would think that they would probably have been paid to distribute that if it was, in fact, someone from outside our Village doing it. Putting

the levy back on the ballot – people have spoken pretty loudly and they do not want new taxes. People voted 57% to 43% not to be taxed.

Councilwoman Brenner-Miller makes a comment as well and she thanks everyone for coming and it is nice to see more than the Fantastic Four who always show up. She states this is a very tough job and the council has been working very hard and going through everything. She tells them to not give up and that the ship is not sinking, but we have to go through everything. Be patient and they will see a positive outcome. She has no doubt about it.

Councilman Rich comments that the council has been meeting with the department heads and they have been taking a look at where the money is being spent. He thinks they will be pleasantly surprised with what we come up with in the near term. He states that we are spending a lot of time on this. There has not been any breath at all about millage. He also would not vote for a millage increase. Mayor Hurst thanks him for his comments.

Councilwoman Terlosky comments that she thinks it is nice that we can say to Mitch, Ray, and Mary Alice that we all know each other in this Village and we are a very small and very good Village. It is run well, it looks nice, and we have a lot of potential here. She states that we are working very hard on this and it is not an easy decision to make. There is another Executive Session tonight. This is where we can talk and bounce it back and forth regarding what we want to do and what we don't want to do and why. She wants what is best for this Village, not just today but for the future of this Village. There is a lot going on that the audience does not know about and what the council is looking into. She tells them that we cannot discuss it. She tells them not to give up on the council. They are not giving up on each other. They work very hard.

Councilman Kolograf comments on Mitch's comments as well and everyone else. He states that when the levy did not pass, the next day you ask yourself what did we do wrong? What did someone else do wrong? Then, you start to talk to the people. He got a lot of feedback. He was out there all day and got a lot of feedback from a lot of people. He got a good feel on how it was going to go. As the day went on, I felt more and more that it was not going to pass. Actually, before the vote, people were asking and I thought we were going to pass by 55% to 60%. He knew it was not going to be a strong vote in favor because no one wants to pay more money, including himself. He had a good feeling that it was going to pass, but it didn't. People express many things to him and the one thing that people expressed to him that they were tired of paying any more taxes whether it is federal, more city, or more state. They feel like every time they turn around, someone is going in their pocketbook. I explained the situation, which we did in all the meetings we had, that all the money from the tax levy was going to come to the Village and not be divided among the schools, the library, the Metro parks, etc. It was all going to come here and it was a four-year term and we would have to revote on it. He said that he has a lot of friends who voted no and they said why can't we live within our means? We have gone through the budget. Sarah Blondin has been here for those and spoke up at one of the meetings and states this council goes line item by line item. People then expressed for the council to put it on the ballot again. He comments that the council has gone back and looked at it, and sometimes making cuts is harder than just a swipe of a pen and put all the burden on all of us. In fact, it is probably the most unpopular thing to do and one of the hardest things to do. He said that not only are his decisions based on what is right or wrong, he also has to look at the moral side of things. We approved allowing medical marijuana processing and growing to come into the Village if there is an opportunity like many communities around us, and he had to look at it morally. He says that making decisions by the council for everybody is very tough especially in a small community. Mayor Hurst thanks him.

Councilman Spitznagel says that everyone has already said what he felt like saying, and he does not need to reiterate everything. He states that when the levy was on the ballot, he was telling people; a lot of people called him; that we are your representatives. We are here to give you the information. We are at an impasse now. We told them please do not vote because you feel you don't want to pay any more taxes. He wants everyone to look at the information and be an educated voter. He does not know if people actually did that or not, and says that he thinks a lot of people didn't. The Mayor has done an excellent job in bringing things to us in ways of

reducing the deficit to stay alive and to fight another day on this. He says that the numbers have to add up at some point. He says there are some good things on the horizon and some things we are talking about that hopefully will bring more revenue into the Village. He tells the audience that we do take what they say to heart. He wants them to not hesitate to call, write, or email their thoughts and ideas. He says we are here for them. Mayor Hurst thanks him.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 2017-10: Councilman Rich introduces for suspension Ordinance 2017-10, an ordinance amending Section 1256.09 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Walton Hills, and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No comments or questions. Six ayes approve. Councilman Rich introduces for adoption of ordinance 2017-10, seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Ordinance 2017-11: Councilwoman Terlosky introduces for suspension Ordinance 2017-11, an ordinance amending Chapter 1062 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Walton Hills with respect to the Multipurpose Room in the Village of Walton Hills, and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilman Kolograf. Mr. Mason states there have been some questions raised about the ordinance and some things that need to be done. He would suggest that paragraph R of the Ordinance, that we delete the first word “individual” and put the word “only” in, and after Community Hall, put a period and delete “...or multipurpose room subject to the rules herein.” He thinks that will address one of the issues raised by Councilman Spitznagel. Also, in paragraph T, after the word “all,” add the word “resident” – so “All resident organizations.” He thinks this addresses some of the concerns. Councilman Spitznagel confirms that the first thing addressed would made the sentence read, “Only residents of the Village may rent the Community Hall or Multipurpose Room subject to the rules herein.” Mr. Mason corrects him by saying it would read, “Only residents of the Village may rent the Community Hall.” Mr. Mason asks that we amend those into the ordinance before the council and then ask to put those changes. Mayor Hurst asks for the changes that Mr. Mason and Councilman Spitznagel introduced. Councilman Kolograf asks that Council approve the amendments said before us by our law solicitor and Councilman Spitznagel. Seconded by Councilwoman Terlosky. No other comments or questions. Six ayes approve the motion to make the changes. Six ayes approve suspension. Councilwoman Terlosky introduces for adoption of ordinance 2017-11, seconded by Councilman Rich. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Ordinance 2017-14: Councilman Rich introduces for suspension Resolution 2017-14, a resolution authorizing and providing for the employment of the Assistant to the Law Director Prosecutor for the Village of Walton Hills, Ohio, fixing the term duties and compensation from July 1, 2017, to January 31, 2020, and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No comments or questions. Six ayes approve. Councilman Rich introduces for adoption of ordinance 2017-14, seconded by Councilman Spitznagel. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Mayor Hurst asks for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase or sale of land, economic development, personnel, and possible litigation. Councilman Linville makes a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase or sale of land, economic development, personnel, and possible litigation. Seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Council reconvenes from Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. Councilman Linville makes a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Rich. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

ITEM L: OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Hurst states that he will follow through on everything we discussed and keep them informed. We will probably have a special meeting next week when we get everyone’s schedule and we see what everyone’s availability is.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Hurst states he will not participate in the 4th of July parade this year for Bedford. He states the council is more than welcome to do that, but he does not think we should spend \$2,000 on candy when we are talking about cuts. He had his option between Flags of Honor and 4th of July parade. Brock Millstein said he would pay for Flags of Honor. So, we are going to do Flags of Honor at the end of August.

Councilwoman Brenner-Miller makes a motion to adjourn the Regular Council meeting of June 20, 2017, at 8:31 p.m., seconded by Councilman Linville. No questions or comments. Six ayes approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Iaconis
Fiscal Officer