

The Village of Walton Hills
Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date: September 5, 2017

Time: 6:44 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Council Chambers

Mayor Hurst called the meeting to order. The roll call was taken by Katie Iaconis, Fiscal Officer. Present: Councilpersons Mary Brenner-Miller, Paul Rich, Gloria Terlosky, Don Kolograf, Brian Spitznagel, and Denny Linville. Mayor Hurst also wants the record to reflect that our law solicitor William Mason and Katie Iaconis as our Fiscal Officer and Clerk of Council.

Item C - Persons having business before council. Mayor Hurst opens up the floor to anyone who wants to come forward and ask questions of council. None are seen.

Item D – Approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 11, 2017. Councilman Rich makes a motion that we approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 11, 2017. Seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Item E – Approval of Special Council meeting minutes of April 11, 2017. Councilman Spitznagel makes a motion to approve the Special Council meeting minutes of April 11, 2017. Seconded by Councilman Rich. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Item F – Approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of May 9, 2017. Councilman Kolograf makes a motion that we approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of May 9, 2017. Seconded by Councilwoman Terlosky. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Item G – Approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 6, 2017. Councilman Rich makes a motion that we approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 6, 2017. Seconded by Councilwoman Brenner-Miller. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Item H – Approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 13, 2017. Councilwoman Terlosky makes a motion that we approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 13, 2017. Seconded by Councilman Kolograf. Councilman Kolograf would like to make an amendment to the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 13, 2017; second to last page where it says Councilman Kolograf, that should be Councilman Spitznagel. No questions or comments regarding the amendment. Councilwoman Terlosky makes a motion to accept the changes to approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 13, 2017. Seconded by Councilman Spitznagel. Six ayes approve the amendment. Six ayes also approve the approval of the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of June 13, 2017.

Item I – Approval of the Special Council meeting minutes of June 13, 2017. Councilwoman Brenner-Miller makes a motion that we approve the Special Council meeting minutes of June 13, 2017. Seconded by Councilman Rich. No questions or comments. Six ayes approve.

Item J – Discussion on Ready Notify Program to replace Code Red. Mayor Hurst states that Code Red is a program that we brought in in 2006. It is where we buy minutes, but the minutes do not roll over. It is a program that is run out of Florida. It is still the same proprietor of this program. It is not super expensive, but it is \$6,000 a year. We get an allotment of 25,000 minutes, but we never use up all of our minutes so every year, we have to spend that money to keep that process and to keep that information. The county came up with a new program and he gave out a package. It is called Ready Notify. He is recommending

that we do this in January. It is going to take a lot of the database from Code Red to go over this and we are going to start putting in our journal so we have two to three months of notification to our residents if they want to change their cell phone number or put information out there.

It is almost identical to Code Red, but it is a free service and it is provided by the county. So, that is another \$6,000 savings per year. There is no limit on minutes. So, if council would like the Mayor to bring someone in to explain this to them, he can prepare this for them for the next month. We are not going to do this until January, but he would like to start advertising it in the journal and he would like everyone to be aware of it. Councilman Rich states he likes the fact that it is going to save us \$6,000 and the fact that it has been in existence for four years, which is good. He asks who our point person is for Code Red. Mayor Hurst says that right now, it is going through our police department. The chief dispatcher usually does everything. He says that if he has noticed, we have changed the process from a human's voice to a computer-generated voice because it is a little bit easier of a system. We simply type in the information and it goes through that way. That is the way we do it now. That is the process that notifies you is Ready Notify. It is just a new program and if you would like, we could always bring someone in in November or December if anyone has any questions when we get close to activating this. Mayor Hurst wants to start describing it at our senior lunches. He wants to describe it at our journal, and he wants to describe at the Mayor's meetings in the mornings so we can start educating our residents in this new process. So, if the council knows anyone who wants to add or subtract a cell phone number or something, this is something new we are adding.

Councilman Kolograf speaks and asks if we can use it exactly the same way as far as customizing it. For example, if we want to set it to a smaller amount instead of ringing everyone, or if we want to put our own message in. Mayor Hurst says yes. We can break it down by street. That is what we do now. Katie speaks and explains another good capability of it, on the page under System Capabilities, that people can sign up for other community's notifications so if you have family members living in another town, you could sign up to receive their code red's as well if you were caring for a family member or if you have children living in another city. Mayor Hurst opens the floor to anyone in the audience who may have some questions or concerns. Ruth Money from 7075 Walton Road, speaks and asks if they have to resubmit their phone numbers to this. Mayor Hurst states that no, they are going to roll over all the information in the database we have right now. We are going to offer the opportunity to offer up their new cell phone numbers or emails or anything. You can have both cell and landline. No more questions or concerns. Mayor Hurst says we will see that in next month's journal.

Item K – Discussion to accept the tax rate resolution. Mayor Hurst states this is the resolution that the council has already passed in the month of July. The county verifies all the information that we send off. Now, this is a resolution for us to accept what the county has accepted that we passed. Mayor Hurst opens up the floor for questions or comments from the audience. Mayor Hurst clarifies to the audience that it is the same exact tax rate that we have had since 1951. No increases. Everything is the same. No questions or comments.

Item L – Overlay zoning. Mayor Hurst explains that we had a Planning Commission meeting last week and the overlay zoning after three public hearings, on the fourth public hearing, we unanimously decided to send it on to council. We will not be able to discuss it this month until next month because Mr. Smerigan, the planner, will not be available until October. Mayor Hurst did not just want to put it on the agenda when he cannot answer all of the questions. Councilman Rich is pretty much comfortable with it and he could answer some of the questions such as the Mayor could, but he wants everyone's approval. Council will probably get it next week as a proposal and then they will have the three weeks to dissect it until we have Mr. Smerigan come. Mayor Hurst states that not much changes from the first time we proposed it, just a little language and a few details. We started this in the month of May. He is just making sure everyone is on the same page.

Item M – Other Business. Mayor Hurst makes a proposal to the council members. We are not going to act on it tonight. This is just so the council knows that this is another option on the table. A company approached Mayor Hurst about our property on the corner of Alexander and Northfield, the vacant lot, right now that is under current construction for the new telephone poles and new traffic lights, which will not be available until next year so we have plenty of time. They would like to erect, assign, and pay us a lease agreement to advertise on that corner because of all the traffic with the Rocksino and everything else. It is not something that he is embracing at this time. He just wants to give the council information to discuss, look at, and review so they are aware of it.

Mayor Hurst states that we made Crain's Magazine today. It is on the internet and it was in today's magazine. As Northeast Ohio's wealthiest suburbs, we make number 42 out of 50. The average home value in Walton Hills is \$205,000. We have the lowest rental property in all 50 communities that is recognized. It is on the 2nd page. It is in small print, but it can be found on the internet to get the information. Councilwoman Brenner-Miller comments that she is looking at the list of the top 10 and other than Bentleyville, we are the highest percentage of owner-occupied residences. Mayor Hurst said that when he first became Mayor, the average home value was about \$178,000 to \$180,000. So, we are getting back to the \$200,000 value now and houses are not sitting on the market long in Walton Hills. He thinks it is 60 days and it is sold. This is very unique in our community. Councilwoman Brenner-Miller has noticed that the pricing has increased. When she sees what is online, they are usually around \$200,000 where they had been lower in the past.

No other questions or comments.

Item L – Adjournment. Mayor Hurst asks for a motion for adjournment. Councilwoman Brenner-Miller makes a motion to adjourn the COW meeting of September 5, 2017, seconded by Councilman Rich. Six ayes approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Katie Iaconis, Fiscal Officer