Village of Mount Sterling Council

Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Lowell Anderson.

Attending the meeting: Mayor Lowell Anderson, council persons Diane Spradlin, Rebecca Burns, Jim Davis, Mary Lou Stiverson Ratliff and David Timmons. John Martin, Deputy Jack Dill, Mark Pitstick, Bonnie Liff, representatives of the press and citizens of the village.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Reorganization: Rules of Council as passed in 2016 and effective for two years, will be in effect for 2017.

President Pro Tem: David Timmons nominated Mary Lou Stiverson Ratliff with a second from Jim Davis.

Diane Spradlin nominated Rebecca Burns with a second from Jim Davis. Ballot vote-Mary Lou Stiverson Ratliff is the President Pro Tem.

Executive Session: Mayor requested an executive session to discuss a personnel issue. David Timmons made a motion to go into executive session with a second from Rebecca Burns.

Diane Spradlin objected to the reason stating ORC and Sunshine law; must have a reason for executive session other than a personnel issue. After discussion, Mayor Anderson stated the executive session was for the resignation of the village fiscal officer. He does not need an executive session.

Minutes of the December 12, 2016 meeting were accepted as written with a motion from David Timmons and a second from Jim Davis. Voice vote: D. Spradlin-yes; R. Burns-yes; J. Davis-yes; M. Stiverson Ratliff-yes and D. Timmons-yes.

Mayor:

Committee assignments: M. Stiverson Ratliff made a motion to accept the committee assignments with a second from D. Timmons. Voice vote: R. Burns-yes; J. Davis-yes; M. Stiverson-Ratliff-yes; D. Timmons-yes; and D. Spradlin-yes.

Holidays: R. Burns made a motion to accept the holiday schedule with a second from D. Timmons. Voice vote: J. Davis-yes; M. Stiverson-Ratliff-yes; D. Timmons-yes; D. Spradlin-yes and R. Burns-yes.

Council meeting dates: J. Davis made a motion to accept the council meeting dates with a second from M. Stiverson-Ratliff. Voice vote: M. Stiverson-Ratliff-yes D. Timmons-yes; D. Spradlin-yes; R. Burns-yes and J. Davis-yes.

State of the Village address: The Mayor gave a report on the various activities that happened in 2016.

Department Reports:

Village Administrator: (John Martin)

Community Service program:

* Have two new applications.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

* Continue to work on the list of repairs at the wastewater treatment plant.

New Water Supply Plant:

* The building installation started last week.
* The two main components of the treatment process have been delivered and placed on the site.

Current Water Supply Plant:

* We are continuing the mechanical water meter change program.
* The final water analysis report for 2016 is attached.

Street Signs/Stop Signs/Speed Bumps/Service Department Issues:

* We have had a rash of traffic accidents on E. Main St. We are going to review the speed limits on the main streets in town and see if we can perhaps reduce the speeds to 25 MPH in the central portion of the village.

Neighborhood Revitalization Grant:

* We have received the Clevenger Ave. repair engineering quote.
* Work on the items at Mason Park continues.

(See attached report)

Sheriff’s Department: Deputy Dill handed out the final compiled statistics report for 2016. Asked for a good date for the representatives of MHRB and Mental Health Services to come down and speak on the drug problem. Also a recovering addict to speak. Will be scheduled for the next council meeting.

Committee Reports:

Finance: (Mary Lou Stiverson-Ratliff)

D. Timmons made a motion to pay the bills to date with a second from J. Davis.

Discussion. D. Spradlin had questions on a few payments. Drafts 9901 and 9902 regarding Medical Mutual Insurance, (was for December and January premiums), and 9936 Madison County Sheriff, (quarterly payment). Voice vote: D. Timmons-yes; D. Spradlin-yes; R. Burns-yes; J. Davis-yes; M. Stiverson Ratliff-yes.

D. Spradlin asked about the State Auditor’s analysis. M. Stiverson Ratliff advised they are giving us a constant run around, it has been a year. They are not giving us anything.

Parks and Recreation: (Rebecca Burns)

Jack Dill has put together a program on how to make a quality video. It is a free program geared toward pre-teens and teens. There are 16 classes. This is on the village website and the Mt. Sterling Chamber of Commerce website. James Cotton Football Camp is scheduled for July 1st.

Tri County Fire District: (Jim Davis)

Met on 12/29/16. Approved the minutes, paid bills, remodeling is finished and three thermal cameras were purchased through donations.

Pleasant Township: (Jim Davis)

Met on 1/2/17. Approved minutes, paid the bills. Went over repairs on mowers and small truck and talked about the yearly convention.

Round Table:

D. Timmons: Christmas in the village was a success. Businesses did well.

J. Davis: Thanked the village employees and the administrator for their work this past year.

D. Spradlin: Does not consider it “noise” to expect the mayor to adhere to ORC 121.22 (Sunshine Laws). Executive sessions are not to be convened for “personnel matters”. Spradlin contends that Council violated this on 11/14/16 in regard to resolution 2016-33. Spradlin said, “In this new year let’s resole to follow the ORC and have few executive sessions”. When is Cindy Miller’s lasts day?

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Public Speaking:

Bobi Little had questions on the open checkbook issue, public viewing of council meetings on line, Veteran’s memorial, the placement of ordinances and resolutions and the village department contact button on the village website.

Becky Martin asked when the empty council seat is getting filled or is it an option.

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Bonnie Liff, Clerk of Council Lowell G. Anderson, Mayor.

Minutes were written on Tuesday, January 10, 2017.