

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2019 – 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr. Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman Samuel Simril, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott, City Attorney Helmut Starr, Police Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Fran Stevens

ABSENT: Alderwoman Barbara West, Ward 1

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Pierson. Copies of all ordinances and resolutions to be considered at the meeting were made available for public inspection prior to the time of consideration by the Board of Aldermen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by Mayor Pierson.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk called the roll and all members were present except Alderwoman West, Ward 1.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mayor asked for a motion to approve agenda with necessary corrections. Motion to amend agenda to remove line items 5(b), 8-A thru C under commission and board reports and include in meeting on December 19, 2019, add approval of \$66,000.00 (purchase of front loader) under invoices over \$500.00, add Bill No. 2563 (amending the budget) under New Business (b), and add appointment of replacement of Alderman for Ward 3 made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion carries.

At this point the Mayor called for the Public Hearing to come to order. (Discussion of Medical Marijuana) Discussion began with Planning and Zoning Chair Mike Weiss giving synopsis and Attorney Helmut Starr explaining rights under necessary conditions regarding limited use and purchase of medical marijuana. It was explained that applications for permits are going out next month and would not be approved until next year and there are strict restrictions in place. The Public Hearing was opened for discussion from the public. There being no question or comments from the public the BOA questioned permissible hours of operation for medical marijuana businesses, benefits to the city and the rationale for amending zoning codes. Alderwoman Dailes will introduce the Bill for medical marijuana at the 12/19/2019 BOA meeting.

BOA Meeting was brought back to order.

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor asked for a motion to appoint Selena Melton as City Collector. Motion to appoint Selena Melton as City Collector made by Alderman Christian. Motion failed with lack of second.

Image and Beautification Awards Certificates were presented by Alderman Christian and Chair Jennie Stewart.

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2019 made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderwoman Dailes. Motion carries.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Peg Warnusz, 100XX Crete Dr., - Thanked the Elected Officials for the speed bumps leading into the shopping center. Discussed an interest to install speed bumps at the other two entrances to the shopping center.

Judy Draper, Municipal Judge – Apologized for the length of time in which she came to introduce herself. She is looking forward to serving the City, distributed Xmas ornaments to the City Officials. Thanked the city for hiring an assistant court clerk which will allow the Municipal Division to stay within the Minimum Operating Standards.

Carnell Jones, 11XX Wentworth – Discussed perseverance, gratitude and positive feeling about our city.

Mayor Pierson announce the presence of Chief Justice George Draper and Mr. Draper stood and thanked everyone for the acknowledgement.

PARKS AND REC: None

STREET DEPARTMENT – Mark Sanders was present in the pre-meeting but was feeling ill and had to leave.

PLANNING AND ZONING - Chair Mike Wiese invited the Municipal Judge to attend the Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday. There was discussion regarding the owner of the Shopping Center at Riverview and Bellefontaine Rd: he wants a subdivision and need to present documents.

BUILDING INSPECTOR - Joe Raben – Good evening to everyone. Presented the monthly report and gave an overview of the sewer laterals that was repaired this month. Danforth School is bringing a new water main. Duluth and Sons are preparing to do water service lines.

Alderman Reed stated she noticed the number of inspections was low at this time, questioned if inspections drop in the winter months and also expressed her concern regarding gutters and the appearance of some homes. The inspector stated that they will site homes but, in the winter months it is difficult to observe grass, tree limbs, weeds, etc.

CITY ENGINEER - Clayton Klein – Greeted everyone and discussed his monthly report.

Alderman Reed questioned if the city is eligible for grants available through East West Gateway. The engineer stated he would check into the issue. Alderman Reed mentioned that she will present grant writer Rodney Robinson at next BOA meeting. Alderman Dailes mentioned that she will also present a grant writer at the next BOA meeting.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES OVER \$500.00

Motion to approve \$66,000.00 for the front loader under the emergency clause made by Alderman Tatman seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carries.

Motion for approval to pay (6) bills over \$500.00 in the amount of \$79,857.16 made by Alderman Christian seconded by Alderman Dailes. Motion carries.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Chief Ihler reported that the invoice for the sand used for flooding is \$4204.01, the St. Louis County Communication Annual Contract was received today and it is now a 5 year- 5% cap renewable contract to be approved in 12/19/2019 BOA meeting, the ordinance will be sponsored by Alderman Tatman, gave synopsis of shootings, car crashes and reported that Sgt. Schack is doing well and almost recovered after the automobile he was occupying was hit on I-270. Invited the BOA to do a ride along with the officers. There is a Records Clerk position open in the Police Department which pays \$28,000.00 annually.

CITY ATTORNEY: Requested a closed session to discuss an employee matter Section 610.021 (3) personnel.

Motion to go into closed session at end of regular meeting under Section 610.021 (3) Personnel made by Alderman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Dailes. Motion passed with the following votes: Alderman Tatman-yes, Alderman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderman Dailes-yes, Alderman Avant-Elliott-yes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

A. **BILL NO. 2562, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH DRURY SERVICES LLC D/B/A DRURY TREE SERVICE FOR THE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN TREES.**

(The contract will be amended to Bellefontaine Neighbors standards before the Mayor signs)

Motion to read Bill No. 2562, for 1st time and move on to 2nd reading made by Alderman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carries. After 2nd reading of Bill No. 2562, motion passed with the following votes: Alderman Tatman-yes, Alderman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderman Dailes-yes, Alderman Avant-Elliott-yes.

Bill No. 2562 will become Ordinance No. 2558 when and if signed by the Mayor.

B. **BILL NO 2563, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO.**

Motion to read Bill No. 2563 for 1st time and move on to 2nd reading made by Alderman Reed seconded by Alderman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries. After 2nd reading of Bill No. 2563 by Alderman Reed, motion passed with the following votes: Alderman Tatman-yes, Alderman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-yes, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderman Dailes-yes, Alderman Avant-Elliott-yes.

Bill No. 2563 will become Ordinance No. 2559 when and if signed by the Mayor.

Motion for the City Clerk to serve as Ex-Officio City Collector until which time the BOA approves the Mayor's appointment made by Alderman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Dailes. After extensive discussion, the

motion was brought back to the floor by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott and Mayor stated that he was not recognizing the motion. City Attorney stated that there can be a vote, but the BOA does not have the authority to enforce and pass said motion. Alderwoman Avant-Elliott stated that BOA has the authority to delegate duties to the City Clerk as the City Clerk is appointed by the BOA. After further discussion between Alderwomen Avant-Elliott, Reed and City Attorney the motion carries. Alderwoman Tatman abstained and Alderman Christian opposed.

REPORT OF MAYOR: Mayor Pierson ask for motion to appoint James Thomas to fill vacant Ward 3 Alderman seat for duration of term (April 2020) at which time individual must run for seat.

Motion to approve Mayor's recommendation to nominate James Thomas, Sr. to fill vacant Ward 3 Alderman unexpired seat made by Alderman Christian seconded by Alderman Simril. Motion carries. Mr. Thomas, Sr. will be sworn in at the next BOA meeting.

REPORT OF ALDERMEN: Alderwoman Tatman – Greeted everyone, thanked Mrs. Warnusz regarding her mention of the speed bumps and mentioned that the Public Safety Board is working to incorporate city wide speed bumps. Invited citizens to attend and/or join committees. Thanked the street department for saving city funds by installing the speed bumps. Encouraged everyone to check on seniors and will be looking to implement additional activities at the Rec Center. Thanked everyone for coming out.

Alderwoman Reed – Thanked Judge Draper for the trinket. Welcomed James Thomas, Sr. for his appointment to BOA. Next Strategic Planning Meeting is next Thursday here at City Hall. Mentioned that she would like to hear information from the upcoming Police Chief's Conference, would like to have boiler update and mentioned that the city's Capital Fund Account is to receive \$7,500 rebate after installation of boiler, updating Rec Center electrical work is included in this year budget and should be completed by June 30, 2020. Working with Treasurer Howard on completing this year's audit has been delightful and the auditing firm will attend 12/19/19 BOA meeting to finalize audit to be filed before 12/31/19. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thanked everyone for coming out.

Alderman Simril – Congratulated James Thomas, Sr. on his BOA appointment, congratulated all the I & B awardees. Thanked everyone in attendance and encouraged everyone to continue coming.

Alderman Christian – Welcomed James Thomas, Sr. and is looking forward to working with him. Congratulated the I & B awardees, mentioned that the Christmas decoration contest will soon be on the way and thanked everyone for attending.

Alderwoman Dailes – Welcomed and thanked everyone for coming out. Welcomed James Thomas to BOA. Read a news report regarding Rosa Parks and gave condolences to James Buford. Attended block unit meeting and information is forthcoming. Census sharing information will begin in January 2020. Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for coming.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott – Thanked everyone for coming and congratulated James Thomas, Sr. for appointment to BOA. Asked everyone to keep Alderwoman West, Ward 1, in your prayers as she has had two deaths in her family. Kwanza event is 12/28/2019 from 2-6 pm in the Rec Center. BN Newsletter will be published in January 2020, hopefully there will be a Ward 4 newsletter forthcoming with collaboration of Alderwoman Dailes and contributions from Ms. Tina, a writer. Thanked everyone for participating and appreciate all the support. Strategic Planning Meeting is next Thursday. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Mayor Pierson – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone and please come out and support this great city in an effort to continue to move forward. Keep Alderwoman Barbara West in our prayers during her hour of bereavement.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC - The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Shelly Davis – 11XX Jennings Station Rd. – Questioned the protocol of post-accident(s) cleanup. Mayor responded with contacting City Hall and it will be dispatched to the street department.

Clarence Wilson – 12XX St. Cyr. – Questioned who handle street issues because the curb in front of his home is getting lower, the crack is spreading across the street and the hole is getting bigger. He was informed that this is a county road and is handled by MoDOT. Alderwoman Dailes informed him that she would check with someone tomorrow (12/6/19).

Tony Lorenzini – 10XXX Ewell Dr. – Inquired about any upcoming street work because he was wondering if we might go back to concrete curbs, which last longer.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn BOA meeting to go into Closed Session made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Dailles. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

ATTEST:


Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on 12-19-19