

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2020 – 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman James Thomas, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Alease Dailes, City Attorney Helmut Starr, Police Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Clerk Fran Stevens

ABSENT: Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, Ward 4.

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 Avant-Elliott, Ward 4.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

A. Mayor asked for a motion to appoint Michael Wiese as Ward 2 Alderman.

Alderwoman West questioned if Mayor had received an application from Michael Wiese for appointment and if any additional correspondence regarding the desire to become Alderman were received; and if they were considered. Mayor answered yes, he received two correspondences and stated that he chose the best candidate.

Motion to appoint Michael Wiese as Ward 2 Alderman made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderman Christian. Alderwoman West answered Nay. Motion carries.

B. Back-stoppers Presentation

Chief of Police presented a check in the amount of \$5513.00 to Back-stoppers from the Bellefontaine Neighbors Police Department and Riverview Gardens Fire Protection District.

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES:

Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2019 made by Alderwoman Dailes seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carries.

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

Anthony Green – 94XX Duenke – His concerns centered around an audit of BN Courts. Pointed out the fact that the courts should be audited each year.

Carnell Jones, 11XX Wentworth – Discussed that the City need to represent positivity and that he will donate his time to young adults. He is also willing to serve as block captain.

Clarence Wilson – 12XX St. Cyr – Discussed his concerns about the deteriorating house next door to him and the fact that this situation could cause problems for the structure of his house.

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS:

A. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Does Not Meet In December**

B. **YOUTH COMMISSION - NONE**

C. **IMAGE AND BEAUTIFICATION** – Alderman Christian reported that there is no meeting in December but they did go out and judge the Christmas Decorations.

D. PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD - NONE

STREET DEPARTMENT – NONE

PLANNING AND ZONING - Pat Barrett reported that 12XX Forest Home Drive – occupant is seeking a license to operate a In-Home Child Care and was told that she must bring in additional paper work.

BUILDING INSPECTOR - Joe Raben – Greeted everyone and discussed the amount of sewer laterals completed, stated the BN Food Mart is coming alone. There was discussion regarding the manner in which occupancy permits were obtained and procedures to obtain occupancy permits on vacant homes.

CITY ENGINEER - Clayton Klein – Greeted everyone and discussed his monthly report. There was discussion regarding MSD and St. Louis Water Company doing underground street work and the manner in which the streets would be repaved.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES OVER \$500.00

Motion to approve invoices over \$500.00 in the amount of \$13,283.55 made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carries.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Chief Ihler stated that the focus is on violent crimes. He also pointed out that packages should be delivered to a secure place in your absence. Please remember to dispose of delivery packaging and boxes inside trash containers in order to deter home break-ins.

CITY ATTORNEY: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

REPORT OF MAYOR: Mayor Pierson thanked everyone for attending. Thanked Alderwoman West for spearheading the Kwanzaa Event. Thanked Back-stoppers, the RGFD and BNPD.

REPORT OF ALDERMEN:

Alderwoman Dailes – Happy New Year to everyone and congratulations to the Christmas winners. Discussed the need to start a toy drive. Wants to hire Weiss Company and Rodney Robinson together for grant writing purposes. Mayor explained the urgency of obtaining a grant writer, Alderwoman West explained that there was a grant writer presented last year but it was voted down. Motion to hire Weiss Design Group and Rodney Robinson for grant writers made by Alderwoman Dailes. Alderwoman Tatman pointed out the cost of hiring both and the City Attorney stated that the initial motion was not seconded and it would be proper to withdraw motion and present new motion. Alderwoman Dailes withdrew and made motion to hire Weiss Design Group and add Rodney Robinson to the team seconded by Alderman Thomas. Alderwoman Reed stated that we need one person as grant writer and not pay the large amount for one project. Alderman Christian stated this is too rushed to decide and stated that there is no reason to vote for the Mayor to have discussion with anyone. Motion withdrawn by Alderwoman Dailes. She discussed the possibility of creating a Golden Years Ordinance for BN residents.

Alderman Christian – Happy New year to everyone and explained to the residents that discussion by the BOA is needed to get correct information and may not always be in agreement.

Alderman Thomas – Good evening and Happy New Year. Agree with the Mayor regarding discussion with the grant writers. He is looking forth the growth in 2020.

Alderwoman Reed – Looking forward to the auditors being in attendance at the BOA meeting on 1/16/2020. Building fees changes should be ready to discuss at next meeting. Requested that we maintain 3 minutes limit for public

comments. Discussed that MSD should repave streets that they work on. Welcome Michael Weise to the BOA. Thanked Alderwoman West for Kwanzaa Event. Next Strategic Planning Meeting is 1/9/2020 at 7pm. Happy New Year.

Alderwoman Tatman – Greeted everyone, congratulated Alderwoman West for the Kwanzaa Event. Encouraged everyone to bring someone out to the meetings. Moment of silence for the Mayor’s family in the loss of his Brother-In-Law.

Alderwoman West – Happy New Year and thanked the Mayor and the BOA for approving the Kwanzaa budget. Thanked everyone for the support and especially the City Clerk for her help. Let’s get some things accomplished in 2020.

Mayor Pierson – Agreed with Alderwoman Reed regarding the 3 minutes time limit with the public comments and stated that it is difficult to limit their time when the BOA start asking them questions.

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

Carnell Jones 11XX Wentworth – Gave information for food pantry – Solomon Temple 5569 Page Blvd. next to Monsanto YMCA.

Peg Warnusz 10XX Crete Dr. – Questioned if home owners are fined if renters do not obtain occupancy permits. Wanted to know the status of Census 2020.

Anthony Green - 94XX Duenke – Questioned if the barbeque stand located at the Advance Auto Lot is operating in Bellefontaine Neighbors.

Pat Barrett - XX Kelvin – Discussed the grant writers and the construction cost.

Barbara Williams - 12XX St. Cyr – Concerned about the trash at St. Cyr and 367. Stated that she cleans it because she can’t stand to see the trash.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn BOA meeting made by Alderwoman West seconded by Alderwoman Tatman. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05PM.

ATTEST:


Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on Jan. 16, 2020