

City of Bay Village, Ohio

Minutes of a Meeting

Town Hall Meeting

Held November 24, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Present: Deborah Sutherland, Mayor
Paul A. Koomar, President of Council
Dwight Clark, Councilman-at-large
Steve Lee, Councilman-at-large
Karen Lieske, Councilman, Ward 3
Thomas Henderson, Councilman, Ward 4

Also

Present: Gary Ebert, Director of Law
Finance Director Renee Mahoney
Service/Safety Director Scott Thomas
Community Services Director Leslie Selig
Fire Chief Chris Lyons
Police Chief Mark Spaetzel
Operations Manager Don Landers
John Cheatham, Chief Building Official, SAFEbuilt, Inc.

Audience: Ellen Oakley, Al Kruzer, Lydia DeGeorge, Suzanne Graham, Diane Puntel,
Conda Boyd

Mr. Koomar welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Koomar stated that tonight's agenda will include information regarding the capital costs of the City's sewer system. Bob Greytak of CT Consultants is here, along with Service Director Scott Thomas, and they will give an overview of where we are with our sewer system in Bay Village today, and highlight plans for the future. Mr. Koomar noted that this is an area of concern to city officials because long term the capital sewer costs are affected by the cost of the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant. Bay Village is part of a multi-city arrangement in the operation and maintenance of that plant. There are also some Environmental Protection Agency mandated projects within the City that are being worked on as well. They will also allow a period of time for questions to be asked, and there will also be a question and answer period at the final close of the meeting this evening.

Mr. Koomar introduced the members of Council and their respective committee chair assignments:

Dwight Clark, Councilman-at-large, Vice President of Council, and Chairman of the Finance Committee

Steve Lee, Councilman-at-large and Chairman of the Environment, Safety and Community Services Committee

Councilman David L. Tadych, Councilman of Ward 1, Chairman of the Public Improvements, Streets, Sewers and Drainage, has a health issue in his family this evening and apologizes for not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

Paul W. Vincent, Councilman of Ward 2, Chairman of the Services, Utilities and Equipment Committee, has a business conflict this evening and also apologizes for not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

Karen Lieske, Councilwoman, Ward 3, Chair of the Planning, Zoning, Public Grounds and Buildings Committee

Tom Henderson, Councilman of Ward 4, Chairman of the Recreation and Park Improvements Committee

Mr. Koomar introduced Mayor Debbie Sutherland who welcomed all to tonight's meeting. Mayor Sutherland introduced the following City Directors:

Gary Ebert, Director of Law
Renee Mahoney, Director of Finance
Dan Enovitch, Director of Recreation (on vacation this week and unable to attend)
Director of Public Service Scott Thomas
Police Chief Mark Spaetzel
Fire Chief Chris Lyons
Director of Community Services Leslie Selig

Mayor Sutherland proceeded to present a 2015 Budget overview. A copy is attached to these minutes as if fully incorporated herein.

Mr. Koomar asked Finance Chairman Dwight Clark to speak regarding this year's budget process. Mr. Clark, Mr. Tadych, and Mr. Henderson comprise the Finance Committee. Mr. Koomar personally thanked Finance Director Renee Mahoney for the job she has done this year. He noted this is Mrs. Mahoney's second cycle through the Bay Village budget process and what she came forward to Council with this year, along with the Mayor, is a budget process that allows the Council to complete everything in the fall, put the budget on three readings in December and have it passed by the time we reach Christmas so that we are off and running for 2015.

Councilman Dwight Clark thanked the Mayor, city administration, department heads, Finance Committee members, and all interested parties that came to budget meetings these last couple of months, and everyone who took part in the process. A special shout-out to Renee Mahoney who has developed a streamlined template for our budget process which will serve the City well this year and in years to come. It is effective, efficient,

and will allow the City to budget much better on an operating/capital basis going forward for the next three to five years.

The process for Budget 2015 takes about one quarter of the year. There are a number of discussions, meetings and revisions to the budget, all geared to produce a balanced operating budget, one that is well-planned, vetted, and executed for the 2015 year. There are several goals most important in that process. Present a level operating budget for the City of Bay Village for 2015; to fund our capital expenditures by department, by priority, to the use of available funds and borrowings representative of our ability to repay those very debts and incur them over a five or seven year period. Also, to pass the 2015 Operating and Capital Budget in three public, full readings, all geared to be done before the end of the year. This allows the employees in the Fire, Police, Service, General Administration, Community Services, and Finance to make acquisitions of equipment and put orders in subject to many of the state levels and processes so we can get the best rates possible on those capital asset acquisitions. Last of all, is to protect the financial integrity, both present and future, of the City that we live in.

Mr. Clark thanked everyone associated with the budget process, Finance Committee members Henderson and Tadych who have been very important in the process, and to all Council members for their input. The 2015 Budget will be completed in about four weeks and the Council will be happy to have it completed as we enter the 2015 year.

Mr. Koomar introduced Director of Public Service/Safety Director Scott Thomas. Mr. Thomas stated that last spring we spoke in regard to the City sewer crew, the expansion that the crew has gone through and the priorities set for it as a team. Mr. Thomas introduced Matt Nocella, one of the right-hand men for the Sewer Department, and Rick Kuznik, the Sewer Supervisor.

Mr. Thomas commented that the reason for the increase in sewer bills is that a lot of clear water is going to the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant (RRWTP). What that means is instead of sanitary problems, we are dealing with a lot of rain water run-offs going into the system. This creates a lot of good, clean water being treated at the RRWTP. Additionally, we had problems with overflows, of which the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said very simply that we must find ways to fix that. The biggest issue, the Bruce/Russell/Douglas area, as well as Lake Road was selected for the testing of the footer tiles of 120 homes. In testing those, it was found that approximately 80% of the homes failed. Tonight we will address some of the things that need to be done to correct those issues, some of the commitments the City is going to give to us to help do that, and some of the changes in City Ordinances to make sure it is addressed properly. As the Sewer Department tests and moves through the City, it is obvious that many more homes will be found with their footers connected into the sanitary system which is causing a lot of clear water to be treated.

Mr. Thomas introduced Mr. Bob Greytak, Principal, Ct Consultants. Mr. Greytak gave a Power Point presentation concerning the sewer issues facing the City of Bay Village as a result of the 2013 Flow and Strength Study. The entire presentation is attached to these minutes as if fully incorporated herein.

Mr. Rick Kuznik and Mr. Matt Nocella, displayed the tools that they use for sewer testing, and answered questions regarding the use of these tools. A report prepared by the Sewer Department is attached to these minutes as if fully incorporated herein.

After the presentation, Mr. Thomas outlined the solutions and costs to homeowners to achieve the desired result of eliminating inflow and infiltration from the system. The solutions and costs are outlined in the attached report.

A question and answer period followed Mr. Greytak's presentation. Questions were fielded in regard to what other communities are doing to deal with similar sewer issues, and the steps individual homeowners can take to reduce the clear water inflow into the sanitary systems. A question was asked as to the timeline is to solve the problems discussed this evening. Mr. Greytak stated that the first priority is to identify the severity of the problem, and secondly to work with the Council and administration regarding funding.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Richard Fink asked about the increase in the number of trains travelling through the City of Bay Village. Law Director Ebert stated that the City has been notified that trains will increase in the West Shore by four or five trains per day. The railroad cannot send more than 13.6 trains per day through the City of Bay Village, in accordance with an agreement entered into in 1998. A meeting was held recently with the West Shore Mayors, to talk about the recent increase in trains. A letter was sent today to the railroad to arrange a meeting regarding the increase and the stacking of trains on the rails with the engines running.

Pam Cottam asked about the Property Maintenance Inspector services. Mayor Sutherland stated that property maintenance was originally part of the SAFEbuilt, Inc. duties. However, a new position of Property Maintenance Inspector was recently put into effect with jobs from different areas including sidewalk inspection and exterior maintenance inspection. SAFEbuilt was never charged with sidewalk inspections or the exterior maintenance program where an inspector would go out and over a four or five year period and cover the entire City looking at the exteriors of homes. It is very beneficial to ramp that back up again to make sure our property values are maintained.

There being no further questions or comments, Mr. Koomar thanked everyone for their attendance this evening and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Paul Koomar, President of Council

Joan Kemper, Clerk of Council

