

**Council of the Village of Yellow Springs
Special Work Session Minutes**

In Council Chambers @ 7:00 P.M.

Monday, March 13, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council Brian Housh called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

ROLL CALL

Present were Housh, Vice President Marianne MacQueen and Council members Kevin Stokes, Judith Hempfling and Lisa Kreeger. Also present were Village Manager Patti Bates and Assistant Village Manager Melissa Dodd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bates announced the likelihood of brown water on March 20th, due to valve exercise activity.

Dodd announced that she has been offered the City Manager/Finance Director position with the City of Bellbrook, and that her last day with the Village will be April 6th. Council members expressed appreciation for Dodd's outstanding performance and dedication to the Village during her time here.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/LEGISLATION

Emergency Reading and Public Hearing of Ordinance 2018-03 Repealing Chapter 881 "Earned Income Tax Regulations Effective Beginning January 1, 2016" Of The Codified Ordinances Of The Village Of Yellow Springs, Ohio And Enacting New Chapter 881 "Earned Income Tax Regulations Effective Beginning January 1, 2016" and Declaring an Emergency. MacQueen MOVED and Stokes SECONDED a MOTION TO APPROVE.

Dodd noted some of the aspects of the legislation, which assures that the Village is in compliance with HB 49, but which allows the Village to continue to participate in any ongoing litigation.

Housh expressed frustration that the Ohio Municipal League did not object to the legislation.

Housh noted that next steps for the Village are to assure that there is an informational campaign to encourage businesses affected to file taxes through RITA rather than through the State of Ohio, the latter of which options would seem to lead to less revenue coming back to the Village.

Dodd speculated that the advantage to a business operating in multiple municipalities would be the ability to file only one tax document with the State for all such operations, rather than filing separately with each municipality. She noted that she has seen a flurry of these documents recently.

Hempfling asked that Council follow up with the Ohio Municipal League for an explanation of its failure to act on the matter.

Housh OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. There being no comments, Housh CALLED THE VOTE. The MOTION PASSED 5-0 ON A ROLL CALL VOTE.

COUNCIL GOALS

VALUES REVIEW

Value #1 Deepen decision-making processes with active citizen participation and effective representative governance.

Value #2 Be a model employer actively working to achieve diversity in hiring and employee retention and a provider of services within a responsible and sustainable fiscal framework.

Value #3 Be a welcoming community of opportunity for all persons regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, economic status, ability or religious affiliation.

Value #4 Pursue a strong economy that provides diverse employment, creates a stable tax base and supports community values, particularly affordability.

Value #5 Seek, in all decisions and actions, to reduce the community's carbon footprint, encourage sound ecological practices and provide careful, creative & cooperative stewardship of land resources.

Value #6 Intentionally promote anti-racism, inclusion, equity and accessibility through all policies, procedures and processes.

Council concurred that the values are accurately reflective, and expressed satisfaction with the values.

GOALS REVIEW

Dodd reviewed the document she provided to Council that denotes which staff are responsible for which of the Council goals. The intersection of staff and Council goals was briefly discussed.

Provide an affordable community with a high quality of life that encourages a diverse resident base. Kreeger introduced the goal, noting the focus on utilities and upon financial oversight that she sees as key.

MacQueen added a statement regarding working with the Township and with the School Board in achieving these goals.

Hempfling asked that Village utility policies be reviewed, specifically the policy regarding landlord notification of non-payment, and of shutoff policies.

Council discussed the goal. Kreeger stated that she is working to gather data so that she can present a coherent idea as to what can be achieved at Council's next meeting.

Housh cautioned regarding change of policy, which is highly time consuming.

Council discussed how to include individuals and groups as resources in a realistic way.

Council asked Dodd for detail regarding utility rate increases, which she provided.

David Turner commented that Council should define the word "affordable", and should determine how much of the housing stock should be "affordable". He also suggested paring down the goals into a less-wordy format.

Execute a housing development model that encourages all types of housing, with intentional focus on affordability, accessibility, rental units and mixed income developments. MacQueen noted changes she had made to the goal, accompanied by a time line for various activities.

Council discussed the goal in terms of general time frames.

Housh expressed some hesitation around naming the Glass Farm as a location specifically, since it is not certain that that is the sole area available for housing development.

MacQueen disagreed, stating that it is the only Village-owned option.

Other Council members joined the discussion, with no one disagreeing that the Glass Farm is an important option, but noting that other options should be weighed and, thus, perhaps named, or no location specified in the goal.

Engage in continuous infrastructure development that promotes Dig Once, Complete Streets and other economical & strategic best practices. Stokes acknowledged that this goal is heavily dependent upon staff requirements.

Infrastructure needs were discussed at some length.

Housh suggested a clearer listing of future actions, as well as a clearer look at climate action strategies. These may be addressed with the update of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Housh suggested.

Embody a Village culture that is welcoming to all, anti-racist and proactive about maintaining a diverse community. Stokes stressed his desire that the activities suggested apply to all Village staff and not exclusively to the Police Department. For this reason, he stated, this is not just a JSTF issue, but is a Council issue, per the stated goal.

Stokes stated the need to broaden the scope with regard to examining and raising awareness around biases.

Housh suggested that the proposals should be run past JSTF and/or HRC prior to coming to Council.

There was general discussion around anti-bias training and hiring practices.

Execute a Sustainable Economic Development Strategy to support existing businesses & entrepreneurs and attract new opportunities that support the values of the community. Kreeger explained her thinking around the goal, particularly with regard to timeframes.

The CIC concept was discussed, with agreement that this piece will return to Council.

Establish a model Village Justice System that promotes anti-racism and respect as well as ensures sensitivity to individuals from all backgrounds. Hempfling introduced the goal, noting that she had added language inclusive of the Village as a whole to mirror Stokes's inclusivity.

Hempfling added the word justice to several sections of the goal.

Council discussed Hempfling's changes as well as the presented action items.

Council discussed future plans for the JSTF in general terms, with the conclusion that the group continue its work through the end of 2018, and that proposals for continuation or termination of the group be considered later in 2018.

Develop a high quality integrated surface infrastructure. Housh introduced this goal, noting that the Active Transportation Committee is front-ending a good deal of this work, and that this dovetails well with the work of staff in the same areas.

Complete the protection of key properties in the Jacoby Greenbelt. After brief discussion, it was suggested that the piece related to the source water protection plan be removed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:32pm, Stokes MOVED and Kreeger SECONDED a MOTION TO ADJOURN. The MOTION PASSED 5-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Please note: These notes are not verbatim. A DVD copy of the meeting is available for viewing in the Clerk of Council's office between 9am and 3pm Monday through Friday or any time via youtube link from the Village website: www.yso.com

Brian Housh, Council President

Attest: Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council