

VILLAGE OF WESTPHALIA
COUNCIL MEETING
April 14, 2020

The virtual meeting of the Westphalia Village Council was called to order by President Dean Kohagen at 7:10 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance given to the flag.

Council Member, Attendance: Dean Kohagen, President Sandy Smith, Clerk Phil Smith
Steve Miller Kevin Krzeminski Nort Upson
Dave Boswell Tim Fandel, Pres. Pro-Tem

Due to COVID-19 and the Governor’s executive order to “stay home stay safe” the April Council meeting was postponed until April 14 and then carried out as a virtual meeting. All members were present for the virtual meeting.

Minutes & Agenda: Member Smith made the motion, supported by Member Fandel to approve the agenda and the minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Guests: None

Water/Sewer: DPW Supervisor Steve Miller updated the Council on the SAW grant work. The Sanitary Sewer has been completed and the Storm Sewer is next.

Financial: A motion to approve all invoices paid during the month of March for all funds was made by Member Krzeminski, supported by Member Fandel. Motion carried. The annual audit is scheduled for the week of May 11, 2020. President Kohagen presented the new audit contract for the next three years. Discussion followed. Clerk Smith to research and then email past contract information to Council members. Member Fandel made a motion to approve the contract with Maner Costerisan for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, contingent on the clerk’s findings. Member Smith supported. Motion carried.

Building & Zoning: None

Streets: The 2020 projects include asphaltting Elm Street (North of St Mary School), Vidua Circle and additional crack and fog sealing of other streets. The DPW has completed preliminary work and we are first on the asphalt company’s priority list once the pandemic is behind us and things get back to normal.

Administration Issues: The Council will invite Ms. Marne Daggett of Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) to a future meeting to discuss funding of the Village employee retirement system and the effects of the current stock market fluctuations on our retirement accounts.

Community Services: The new signage for the recycle center is complete and will be installed in the near future. Due to COVID-19 our recycle center is closed until further notice from Granger. The Portland Ambulance contract was presented and discussed in detail. The per capita charge has increased from \$5.75 to \$13.00. Although this is a large increase, it is the first in 6 years. The Council would have preferred incremental increases over those 6 years but feels the value of the services provided it is worth the increased expense. Member Upson made a motion supported by Member Miller to approve the Portland Ambulance Contract for another year. Motion carried.

Planning Commission: The Cruise-In car show was discussed in detail. It is difficult at this point to make specific plans regarding the Cruise-In as much depends on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, changes are likely and cancellation of the event is a possibility. We hope to know more in the near future so a decision can be made. Changes to the Zoning Ordinance is currently being reviewed by our legal counsel. The next meeting is May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: May 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Moved by Member Smith supported by Member Krzeminski. Motion carried.