

Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on February 10, 2021 at 7:00pm at Village Hall

Present: Council Members: Ricky Caldwell
Ronda Siegfried
Robert Beck
Earl Bennett
Brian Collins
Ron Margraff

Village Clerk: Hilary Ostrom

Mayor Austin Whited called the meeting to order.

Dave Gale is not here to give sewer report to Council.

Public: Delaney Ostrom is here from Girl Scout Troop 1995 to discuss with Council collaborating in a Community Garden. Troop 1995 is participating in a seed-growing program through Girl Scouts and would like to create a Community Garden in Marengo. Council will discuss during park committee.

Minutes: Brian Collins moves to approve minutes from the Jan. 13 2021 Council meeting; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Roll Yes; Motion Passes.

Ron Margraff is interested in the vacate Council position. Mayor Whited appoints Ron Margraff to the vacate position.

Ronda Siegfried moves to go into executive session to discuss personnel; Earl Bennet seconds; Roll yes; went in at 7:02 pm. Brian Collins moves to go out of executive session. Out at 7:17pm.

Bills: Council reviewed bills. Brian Collins moves to pay bills; Earl Bennet seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes.

Public: Mike Anderson is here to inform Council he feels several side streets are unsafe, especially Hidden Lane. Council had discussion of spreading grit and plowing more often. He also asked if Council is still planning to fix that road and Council is. He asked if Council is still planning to stop service for residents who are not paying their sewer bill. Council informed him Covid caused them not to be able to stop service on sewer accounts that are delinquent. Council discussed sewer accounts that are being assessed. Mike Baker gave Council a history on how the budget decreased over the years. Council discussed the need for continuously pumping tanks in the future. Mike Anderson also discussed the vacate houses in the Village. Council had discussion on the vacate houses in the Village and zoning requirements. Council discussed having Adam write a letter to have the houses boarded up. Council had further discussion on the requirements requiring having the house boarded up. Don Callahan will get a list of the properties that need boarded up to Adam to send a letter. Brian moves to have Adam send letters; Ronda seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes.

Old Business: Mayor Whited spoke with Dave and Dave said he could do the electrical work needed for the poles. Mayor Whited will make sure he is licensed or have a licensed electrician inspect. Council had discussion on the need for a lift this spring for repairs needed in the Village. Council will table discussing renting the hall to next meeting. Council discussed how they would like to create job descriptions for sewer and Village maintenance.

Mayor Whited gave pricing to Council for pallet wracking, he will get additional pricing to Council. He will also look at the cost of getting a dumpster this spring to clean out the garage. Mayor Whited discussed with Council selling some items the Village no longer uses. Fishburn did not provide any documentation for water usage.

Committee Reports:

Planning: Business owners meeting is Feb. 24th at 6:00 pm. Village also put out a request for qualifications for an engineer.

Fire & Safety: Nothing to report

Parks and Streets: Nothing to report

Zoning: Council had discussion on the food truck in the Village.

New Business: American Legion asked if the Village would be willing to donate the old chairs to the American Legion. Earl Bennett moves to donate the old chairs; Robert Beck seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited discussed purchasing a skid loader or some piece of equipment that is able to lift salt. Mayor Whited also discussed with Council the truck was hard to plow with since it is a stick shift. Council had discussion on a new vs used truck, purchasing equipment from ODOT. Council is open to getting a loan for a truck. Hilary reminded Council permanent appropriations are required next month. Hilary informed Council she has sewer accounts to assess on taxes. Ron Margraff moves to assess sewer accounts; Ronda seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes. Austin Whited discussed reducing the sewer rate for vacate property with Council. Council also discussed the cost to add a sewer tap. Mike Baker informed Council in the past the Village provided the tank but the property owner was charged the cost of the tank and to put it in. They also had to provide the line from their house to the tank. Council had discussion on having a set sewer tap price and how it was done in the past. Council had discussion on sewer taps for a housing development. Council also had discussion on having a reinstatement fee for vacate properties. Mike Baker suggested we use the same fee as to unplug a tank. Council had discussion on the sewer ordinance. Council had a discussion on the definition of vacate. They are defining as no usage on the property. Council also discussed on the property owner must be non-delinquent on their bill to request a reduction on vacate units. Village discussed charging \$120 a year/per unit and \$1,000 to reinstate. The property owner must fill out an application and be approved by Council. Payment must be made when application is approved. Ron Margraff moves to approve Village charging 120 a year/per unit and \$1,000 to reinstate; Ricky Caldwell seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes.

Robert Beck moves to adjourn. Out at 8:57pm.