

Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on January 11, 2023 at 7:00pm at Village Hall

Present: **Council Members:** Ronda Siegfried Robert Beck
 Earl Bennett Ron Margraff Mike Baker Brian Collins
 Village Clerk: Hilary Ostrom **Village Solicitor:**

Mayor Austin Whited called the meeting to order.

Minutes: Ron Margraff moves to approve minutes from the December 14, 2022 Council meeting; Mike Baker seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes.

Council discussed the Memorial Day parade and when plans need made. Morrow County Commissioner Tim Siegfried stated they accepted a bid for sewer expansion at 61/71. In fiscal year 2025, there will be expansion on St. Rt. 229 and 61 intersection, possible roundabout. Council reviewed bills and had discussion. Mike Baker moves to nominate Earl Bennett Council President; Robert Beck seconds; Earl abstains; Roll yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited discussed the pump station by the Dollar General with Council. He had the line snaked and found multiple lines going into the station. He is going to continue to have it researched. He discussed buying dye in hopes to determine where the excess water is coming from. Council had further discussion. Hilary added Rinehart Walter Danner insurance for \$4,002.00 to the bills list. Brian Collins moves to pay the bills; Mike Baker seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes.

Mayor Whited discussed insurance policy changes with Council. Last month, Mayor Whited gave Council a road resurfacing packet to review. Brian Collins moves to approve road resurfacing packet and advertise for road resurfacing; Robert Beck seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Council discussed sewer increase. Currently monthly sewer total billed is \$9,222.00 (43.50 a month for 212 accounts), but actual amount received is closer to \$8,162. If sewer rate increases to \$50.00 a month, monthly sewer billed amount would be \$10,600. Council also discussed a late fee of \$5.00 per billed unit if not paid by the end of the month, sewer lid charge of \$80.00 a lid and a bounced check fee \$30.00. Residents are required to allow easy access to the sewer at all times. Council had further discussion. Randy, maintenance worker for the Village, has checked several tanks to see if they needed pumped as well as inspected lids for replacement. Council had discussion on the need to send out a newsletter. There was also discussion on cost to uncover a buried lid. Ronda Siegfried moves to adopt Ordinance 2023-1-11 (increase sewer rate, late fee and sewer lid charge effective April 1, 2023 and declaring an emergency); Ron Margraff seconds; Roll yes; Mike Baker Nay; Motion passes. Mayor Whited spoke to the State of Ohio purchase rep about the truck. The truck supposed to be delivered to the dealership on Jan 16, 2023 and then it takes a week to put the plow on.

Committee Reports:

Community Improvement: Ordinance meeting is set for January 25th at 6:00 pm. Mayor Whited made a copy of all past Village Ordinances and zoning regulations he found and put them in one book.

Fire & Safety: BWJFD is meeting with a new architect tomorrow.

Personnel: Randy Wilkinson was hired as part-time maintenance worker for the Village.

Park: Mayor Whited will remove the flags this week. Council discussed looking for grant money for additional park equipment.

Zoning: Mayor Whited is still working on a contracting a joint zoning inspector with Ashley.

New Business: Mayor Whited discussed pump station problems at Dollar General and pumping tanks in the Village. Village is going to purchase 50 lids, there are at least 30 lids in the Village that need replaced. Mayor Whited discussed the need for tools for the Village. He presented a list of items needed for Council to review. Currently, several of the tools the Village uses are personal property. Brian Collins moves the purchase of tools and equipment up to \$4500 to be divided between sewer and street fund; Earl Bennett seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited provided Council a quote for a John Deere Gator at \$30,389.40. The Village did receive approx. \$15,000 from the insurance company for the Bobcat. Council had further discussion. Council would like at least one other option to review. Robert Beck moves to adjourn. Out at 8:22 pm.