

## Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on August 11, 2021 at 7:00pm at Village Hall

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

Village Clerk: Hilary Ostrom  
Village Solicitor: Adam Landon

Mayor Austin Whited called the meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Ron Margraff moves to approve minutes from the July 14, 2021 Council meeting; Robert Beck seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Brian Collins moves to approve minutes from the July 26, 2021 Council meeting; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes.

**Bills:** Council reviewed bill. Brian Collins moves to pay bills; Ron Margraff seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes.

**Public:** Mike Baker suggested to Council the Village purchase the parcel where the recycling bin is located. The parcel is for sale for \$30,000. Tammy Drake asked Council if they are hauling away dirt from the new basketball court. Mayor Whited said she could have some and it is available for those who want to haul it away. Jodi Adkins discussed with Council the status of the sewer system and future expansion. She has a potential buyer for the property behind the post office and they are interested in annexation if the Village would commit revenue to sewer expansion. The Village is currently working with an engineer to see about future expansion of the sewer plant and which areas could be done in the near future. Jodi suggested asking Fishburn about donating the property the recycling bins are on. Council had further discussion on sewer plant. Mayor Whited asked Council if they are open to annexation. Council is open to annexing future properties that would like to join the Village. The Village is having a capacity study is being done on the sewer plant now. The Village is looking into grant information for sewer plant expansion also. The sewer plant was put in before central water was available to the Village. There was discussion on changing some zoning in the future. Tammy Drake asked Council about the empty properties in the Village. Don Callahan (zoning) said some of the properties have started required improvements. There was discussion about the old school. Jodi asked Tim Siegfried (Commissioner) if the County would be willing to look into taking that property due to back taxes and tearing property done. Tim said the County can't do anything with properties due to the ongoing pandemic. There was further discussion on buildings in the past that have been

torn down by the County. Tammy Drake asked about the cars around the school and Don said they are all tagged. There was discussion on the public not cleaning up after their dogs. Mike Baker suggested the downtown needing additional parking and purchasing the property for sale downtown. Council is aware the Village needs additional parking. Jodi asked about the cost of a sewer tap. Village doesn't have a set sewer tap, it is based on the need of each property. There was further discussion. Council reviewed the prospective plan map for potential expansion in the future.

Mayor Whited discussed with Council applying for stormwater and curb ramps improvements grant. It's a competitive grant in District 17. He is requesting \$1,600 to have KEM apply for grant. There is a grant and grant/loan option of a 26% to as little as 5% percent match if Village does a grant/loan option. The Village applied for CBDG funds for the base repairs needed. Earl Bennett moves to approve KEM to apply for the grant; Ron Margraff seconds; Council had discussion. The project will be focusing on 229 and possibly down street storm water as well as side streets. Mike Baker discussed with Council the curbside drains need to be repaired. The grant max is \$500,000. Mayor Whited discussed the TAP program briefly with Council. Roll yes; Motion passes. Council had further discussion about the grant process. Council will review the grant application in September before the grant is submitted.

**Old Business:** Ross Porter did pay the requested amount for past due sewer. Mayor Whited has set up a meeting to gain more knowledge on how sewer charges are determined. Ron Margraff moves to go into executive session to discuss litigation; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Motion passes; Went in at 8:07 pm. Ron Margraff moves to go out of executive session; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Motion passes. Out at 8:19 pm. Council had discussion on assessing properties that have been mowed by the Village. Mayor Whited reviewed with Council some Ordinances that need to added to the Ordinance book.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Planning:**

**Fire & Safety:** New fire truck is at Station 1.

**Parks and Streets:** Supplies are going to be gathered for the items needed for the garden. August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 will be a service day for the park and will continue with a cookout. On September 15<sup>th</sup> engraved pavers will placed and ribbon cutting will be end of September. Council discussed posting on Facebook information on the donation brick pavers. The Village has started to fill potholes and Hidden Drive is possibly starting next Wednesday. Mike Baker suggested chipping and sealing the road in front of the post office that was paved recently in the past.

**Zoning:** Don turned in the Mill and the old concrete plant into Adam to send violation letters to. Council had discussion on the cost to clean up the old concrete plant.

**New Business:** Mayor Whited is reviewing the American Rescue Plan with Lakeside Community Action. Earl Bennett reviewed the 7 Fishburn properties that are for sale in the Village. He went over details on each parcel. He discussed the requirements Council would

need to give an estimated cost for sewer. Council had discussion. Jodi asked if the Village is ready for develop plans to come in and at this time the Village does not have the information needed to give an answer on what is available for sewer expansion. There was further discussion. Earl Bennett discussed the limitation of apartments with the current zoning regulations with Council. Council had discussion on the apartments that are currently being built in the Village.

Robert Beck moves to adjourn. Out at 9:03 pm.