

Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on September 14, 2016 at 7:00pm

Meeting was called to order by Mike Baker with council members Cherri Burwell, Earl Bennett, Ron Margraff, Becky Margraff and John Brent present.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed by the Council. John Brent moved to approves minutes Earl Bennett second, motion passes.

Approval of Bills: Cherri Burwell moved to approve payment of the bills except Bennett's Distributing Earl Bennett second. Roll yes. Cherri Burwell moved to pay Bennett Distributing John Brent second Earl abstains. Roll yes.

Public: Discussion on if Council has been approached about garage being built on parsonage property. Mike stated that he told them they needed to submit plans and get a zoning permit. All information will need to be provided before zoning permit will be approved. Council hasn't received any specific information/plans for the garage.

Old Business: Hilary presented 2017 Estimated Budget (attached.) Cherri Burwell moved to approve estimated budget and submit to county. John Brent second. Roll yes. The post audit had to be rescheduled, Council decided to rescheduled for Tues. Sept. 27 at 5:30. Mike apologized to Earl for comments made at previous meeting. Earl said no apology needed. Village is dealing with very limited funds. Council discussed equipment and repairs the sewer plant is going to need in 2017/2018 and in the future. Council discussed Marengo's sewer rate and stated the reason it is so low is because the Village was able to secure a loan at a good rate and getting a great grant. Council discussed possibly raising rates and plugging delinquent sewers. The loan for the sewer will be paid off in 2017. Sewer system is in good condition at this time and proper maintenance has been done and back up equipment is in good place and ready to go. Council discussed number of sewer accounts that are not paying their sewer bill as well as charging properties that are being mowed. Council discussed reviewing other Village's sewer ordinances.

Mike informed Council that the fee that is charged by the lawyer is the cost for a lawyer to be at meeting. Everything else is billable hours. Any council that the Village receives from the lawyer during the meeting is included in fee.

Mike talked to Bill Short about the trash at his rental property and Bill said he would take care of it. It hasn't been taken care of at this time. Village website hasn't made any more progress but John and Hilary will continue to work on that.

Park Committee Report: Inspection for playground equipment was completed. It passed and a value of \$5000 was assigned and the equipment is good to use. Playground equipment will be re-inspected after it is installed. Concrete is being done Sat and planning on doing fencing and getting playground equipment done in near future.

New Business: Earl Bennett reviewed 2017 Local Distribution report from the Morrow Co. Auditor. He stated that Marengo will be getting less money in the future and he will see how much lower Marengo will be getting and give the information to Council.

Mike discussed with board the cost of having the Co. Rd. 26 section paved going out of town towards the post office at an approx. cost of \$16,000 would be approx. If the Council chooses to pave, it would be done in spring 2017 and the rate would be locked in as long as there is no material cost that goes up drastically. There are other roads in village in worse shape but not traveled on as much.

Public is stating that there needs to be a stop sign going out of the driveway at the park. State won't put up a stop sign until it becomes a road. Council would have to make a resolution to turn it into a road and there may be additional expense to making it a road. Discussion on liability for people pulling out of the driveway at the park and council was advised it should be the driver for not stopping.

Council discussed working on getting grant money for different projects in town. Grants require matching funds and cost of applying for grants. Plan4Land provided information to the council on different ways to increase revenue, such as income tax. Council would like Joe Clase to do further research on process for income tax. John Brent moved to authorize to pay Joe Clase to get a detailed plan for a 1% income tax. Cherri Burwell seconds motion passes.

Mike suggested to council that they should send the future mayors to training so that they will have the knowledge to do the job.

There was discussion on storm water problem in the village and the lack of drains.

Council needs to set a date and time for trick or treat. Ron Margraff moved to have it Sat. Oct. 29 from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, Cherri Burwell second motion passes.

Mike discussed the need to set up accounts for purchasing item due to equipment village used in the past was property of the hardware store and the village purchased a lot of items at the hardware store. Mike

went over a list of needs coming up with Council, including patch for the road, street signs, paint for roads, etc. and the cost of those items. Discussion on how to purchase these items, such as the need to have Councils preauthorize, max amount that can be purchased, etc and how they would determine the amount. John Brent feels Mike has good judgement and will purchase only items needed and get the best prices he can. Council would like to keep the process the same as they have used in the past and with the previous mayor.

Council discussed what to do when Dave needs additional help as needed. There was discussion if the back-up person would need to be licensed and only one licensed operator is needed on payroll, back-up does not need to be licensed. Council discussed the required hiring process and liability of the village as well as the need for additional employee. Mike suggested having an independent contractor help Dave as needed. Becky Margraff suggested hiring a part-time employee. Council discussed how often the person would work, approval of hours and hourly wage. Determined job would be as needed and as approved. More hours would be needed in the winter to plow snow. Earl Bennett moved to authorize the employment of Ryan Gale at \$10 an hour as a part time employee on an as needed basis with the hours to be approved by the Mayor or president of council. John Brent seconds Ron Margraff abstain Roll yes. Motion passes. Mike will present offer to Ryan Gale.

Village is in need of a portable air compressor. John Brent moves to adjourn. No second. New Business continues. Village's driveway is in need for repairs. Mike discussed the need for signs in the Village and the importance of the signs that are needed throughout the Village. Council discussed prioritizing the signs that are needed. Cherri Burwell moved to adjourn. Ron Margraff seconds motion passes.