

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF PLYMOUTH

Safety and Service Committee Minutes

May 27, 2020

Safety and Service Committees met on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 4:00pm. Attendance was part in person and part via WebEx. The following were present:

Councilwoman, Susan Broderick
Councilman, Jason Trine
Councilman, Matthew Patrick
Councilwoman, Susan Moore

Administrator, Tom Rusynyk
Police Chief, Thomas Hintz
Fire Chief, Rich Metzger
Fiscal Officer, DiAnn Jamerson
Administrative Clerk, Rebekah Fearing

Service

Opening up the Village Offices

Mrs. Moore wanted to go over and discuss a policy for opening of the Village offices.

Ms. Broderick stated she had called around to five communities who had the Office personnel in the office but the doors were locked. And these communities are back to having live meetings.

Mr. Patrick asked what the plans were.

The Village Administrator stated he is taking it day by day. He was looking into starting to bring them back on Monday but with the doors locked. He didn't think anything would change in ways of service.

There were stated concerns for safety.

The Administrator stated he has heard complaints that phones are not being answered, but they are. He doesn't feel there are any disruptions in service.

Various questions were asked they were as follows:

- If Plexiglas would be put up in the utility office.
- If anyone has called and asked to come in and discuss tax. Rebekah stated she had not received any calls.
- It was asked if a lot of people were coming into our office or the utility office.

Ms. Broderick stated some people are switching office hours. It was asked to put a notice that if anyone would need to make an appointment, they can call and do so. Rebekah stated they are currently doing that.

Other questions asked were regarding utilities. They were as followed:

- How are we going to go about the unpaid amounts on Utility bills?
- Will they need to pay in full or will they be able to do a payment agreement?
- Is there currently a charge for paying with a credit card over the phone?

The Administrator explained after June 1st the process would start for the unpaid electric portion of the bill. There was no state mandate to keep electric on during the pandemic but due to the children being still in school and electricity would be needed to provide online school it was not shut off. The Ohio has however, stated water cannot be shut off during the pandemic. The Ohio EPA mandate will expire on December 1, 2020 unless something changes. They will be allowed to set up a payment agreement and no there will not be a charge to pay over the phone as long as the outside doors are locked.

Council would like to make sure the residents are informed that the electric will be shut off for non-payment.

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Mrs. Moore asked the Fire Chief about an update on the COVID cases in Willard. She had heard there was a spike in cases in Willard.

Chief Metzger stated that is the truth. He did not however have any numbers. Huron County is not releasing the numbers. They are releasing them by zip code. We also have more cases in our zip code now. There are 2 more as of last week. There is a spike in the Hispanic community and the drug community.

Mr. Patrick asked about lockers for the guys at the shop and proper FR clothing for Darren and Jarred.

Administrator Rysnyk has found a set and arrangements are being made to get those. The FR clothing was ordered a couple of weeks ago. They each received two shirts and they already have gloves. He also let them know they are only to be worn when they are working on electric.

Mrs. Moore asked there were any plans to remove the concrete barriers at the park, between Elaine's field and the park? They look awful. She feels they do not look nice. She also thanked him for pulling the pole out of the river bank.

It was explained they were put there because people were driving over to the old football field and destroying it. They would be removed when the ground dried up.

Mrs. Moore also asked if the parks were open or when they would open, are we taking reservations. Yes, we are renting. Rebekah stated the only question she had was regarding the Scout Hut. Mrs. Moore feels it should be open.

Discussion took place. Some of the highlights are as follows:

- A few members noticed other towns still had parks closed.
- Since it was out doors couldn't they be open.
- Questions were raised on the disinfecting of the equipment and the tables.
- On the virus and how things are being opened.
- It's an individual's choice if they want to rent. It's a personal decision.
- It was felt if we do rent it should be sanitized first.
- They feel no one should be allowed in the building yet.

Mr. Patrick stated things are going great with the Administrator. He calls Mr. Patrick about every other day and they talk about things. If the Administrator can help him with something and if he can do it, he tries. For example, Sally Horner's, he called Tom up and asked if they could go do something about it. Administrator Rusnyk stated at that time the guys were painting the lamp posts uptown but if it rains, they will get on it. While the Administrator was busy pumping water in various areas of the town due to flooding.

Discussion continued on the cleanup at Sally's house.

Ms. Broderick wanted to know what was going on with the old hotel.

Administrator Rusnyk stated at this point it is up to Donnie Spillman Jr. He has not heard anything more.

Mrs. Moore wanted to commend the Administrator and his crew for all the help they provided at the Veteran's park and the help they provided to the Plymouth Improvement Committee.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding trash on people's property and the trash being set out prior to what the Ordinance allows. It was asked that the Police notify the occupants about issue. Chief Hintz stated some of the properties discussed on Bell Street, Trux Street and Nicholas Street have been piling up for years. The way to handle that is the process we went thru on Riggs Street. The occupants of the homes have been notified and the next step is to have the Solicitor write a letter and if it is not cleaned up to file an injunction and deal with it in court.

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The issues with the trash being set out to early could possibly be helped by placing another notice on the utility bills. The Police chief stated they are notifying them. They feel it should be pursued.

Ms. Broderick passed out some information regarding how to open the pool.

Safety

Mr. Trine asked Chief Hintz if he had anything for today. Chief Hintz stated he had nothing for today.

Mr. Tine asked Chief Metzger if he had anything for today.

Chief Metzger stated the ball was in their court and the guidance is out there and he has passed the information and they need to look at it.

Mrs. Moore asked for clarification.

Chief Metzger stated for instance the playgrounds. They are not supposed to be opened. In the last release from May 26th there are a number of items but the items that pertain to use are places for public amusement, if you read farther playgrounds are still closed. It was stated the information is out there. It should be reviewed as it is released.

Mr. Trine stated we as a council cannot or do what we want to do and override what the Governor is setting forth. If we do that it is not good.

It was it is about responsible leadership and it is being educated on it. He has sent emails regarding the updates pertaining to what is still closed and the strongly suggested recommendations. Everything is there for what you can and can't do. There was talk about the Plexiglas and you are going to have to do that. Nothing has changed as far as far as when people go back to work. The only thing that has changed is the stay at home order. He stated the guidance is out there and they can choose to do what you want.

Mr. Patrick stated we need to go by what the guidance says and if we don't know that is why we ask you.

It was asked if they were going against the guidance that is currently out there? It was asked if they should have caution tape around all of the playground equipment since the parks can open up.

Chief Metzger stated you are going to have to. He stated you can open the village up but you must follow the guidelines that are out there. You cannot just rely on one person to know all the answers. We all have to be educated and know the guidelines as it comes out.

Chief Hintz stated he agreed with Chief Metzger. We are all ready to get back to normal, none of us like this. And he is not sitting in that room right now and four of you are violating the Governor's orders right now sitting right next to each other. It is 6 feet apart. And he is not nit picking, but we all have to do what we are supposed to do. There is all kinds of beliefs out there and all personal and political beliefs don't matter we have to protect ourselves and do what we are supposed to do.

Mrs. Moore stated that with respect to the park, should they put tape around the playground equipment.

Meeting was adjourned.

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Next meeting was not stated.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "DiAnn Jamerson", is written above a horizontal line.

DiAnn Jamerson, Fiscal Officer