

Metamora Village Council met in regular session Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the village office. Council members present: Karon Lane, John Hudik, Suzy Stough, Ned Monroe, Ken Wysong and Cheryl Geer (7:10)

Other officials present: Mayor Loar, Village Solicitor Alan Lehenbauer, Fiscal Officer Karin Sauerlender and Deputy Clerk Sue Clendenin

Guests: Fulton County Commissioners Paul Barnaby and Perry Rupp, Fulton County Sanitary Engineer Ziad Musallam and Cathy Mossing

Mayor Loar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Barnaby was recognized and turned the floor over to the Fulton County Sanitary Engineer Ziad Musallam to provide an update on the water meter replacement project. Mr. Musallam said the meter project began the first week of January with approximately 408 meters to be replaced, of which 402 have been installed. Recent meter readings were performed by remote and took just 4 hours versus four to five days when old meters were in place. New remote read meters will flag unusual water use, which will be a benefit to the homeowner if there is a leak, running toilet, etc. New meters will also provide a more accurate read. The contractor installing meters was given an extension from April 30 to the end of May; due to weather conditions, difficulty finding valves, and delay of access to some property's, followed with 30-days to perform completion of final restorations. Entire contract should be completed by June 25, 2013 or sooner, at which time a final punch list will be complete and resolved. John Hudik asked about meter pits not going in on vacant lots that had homes on them at one time. Ziad said the two taps he was aware of did not have existing homes, not developed parcels and pits were not installed. Hudik said two lots did have homes on them at one time, one home was just torn down three years ago. Meter pits are being put in at homes that have been vacant for several years, so why not at locations that had homes. Mr. Musallam said vacant homes had meters, whereas vacant/ bare lots have nothing to service and didn't have meters, so meter pits were not installed. If the lot didn't have a meter, there was nothing to replace. In the event the homeowner builds on the lot, the homeowner will be responsible to install pit and purchase meter. Hudik said he had been informed grant funds were received where to only replace meters in homes, and asked who will pay for business meters? Mr. Musallam responded, "Business meters being funded through Fulton-Lucas Water line funds." Hudik expressed disappointment funds were not available to install pits on the few vacant lots in the village, when business meters were funded through the water system and not paid for with grant money. Ziad reiterated it was a meter replacement project, if no meter existed an updated meter was not installed. Should owners of vacant lots want a meter pit installed, they can contract with Mika's on their own, at a cost of about \$400 to install pit, excavate and set meter.

Ken Wysong expressed concern with a 33% water rate increase over the last sixteen months. Rates started out at \$6.95 per thousand gallons and have increased \$2.13 to \$9.08 per thousand. It was his understanding rates would not increase unless Toledo raised rates to their residents. Ziad said much of the increase is the Toledo increase and per the agreement county/village agreement as operators of the system they are permitted to levy increases, subject to going through the water advisory board (which Metamora has a member on) to discuss, evaluate and make a decision on the proposed rate increase. This was done, and the advisory board (which Metamora has representation on) agreed to the proposed increase by NE. Ziad said it's their right as operators of the system to review maintenance costs and if necessary pass the increase on to the end users. Cost review will be performed annually. Council member Wysong asked why commissioners didn't analyze the proposed need for an increase, especially when we were told rates wouldn't increase unless Toledo residents saw an increase. The system could have saved a lot of money by not installing pits and just switching out existing meters, but instead NE chose to put in meter pits. Several homes didn't get pits just new meters in basements, and we were told this wouldn't work remotes. Ziad said it's their right as operators of the system to review maintenance costs and if necessary pass the increase on to the end users. Cost review will be performed annually. Ken Wysong said we were told pits had to be installed for remote reads to work, but many homes and businesses are having meters installed in their basements. As Ziad indicated before, pits would be put in where possible, unless site conditions didn't allow for meter pits. Wysong

still doesn't understand why meters weren't just switched out, a less expensive and faster way to go, versus installing pits. He also believes new meters will most likely be more accurate and will record more usage than before, thus bringing in additional revenue. Wysong suggested they look into cutting expenses versus raising rates. Ziad said the system will be responsible to replace and/or repair broken meters along with meter pit lids. Commissioner Rupp said an advantage to meter pits is that they will record water loss due to service line leaks that occur after the meter, whereas now this loss is not recorded because meters are located at the house. Also with limited staff use of remote readers was the best solution

Ziad said the more customer base we have the lower the rate will be. Karon Lane asked if the trailer park in AI will be tapping into the NE water line anytime soon, any could they be encouraged to tap in. Ken Wysong asked why they didn't tap in. Ziad said they didn't want to and they don't have to. Ken said it was his understanding poor quality of water at the trailer park was a major reason to run water lines to them from Delta. Metamora is bearing the cost of the project that ran waterlines to AI, and for some reason they're not tapping in, now we have less users and higher water costs than projected. Karon Lane asked if Zia's office or commissioners do anything to encourage more people to tap in. Ziad said the Health Dept. tells those with failing ponds and wells that public water is available through NE. The AI trailer park is in the hands of the EPA, as far as enforcement. NE meets with EPA on an annual basis, they are aware public water is available to the park. But for the EPA to force them to tie in they have to have something really wrong with their water. The county can't force them to tie in either; it has to come from the Ohio EPA. Commissioner Barnaby said state law doesn't allow you to force people to tie into a water line but if sewer lines run across property, they have to hook up. Ziad said as far as justifying NE 5% rate increase they have incurred unexpected maintenance costs such as water main breaks and water leaks, also have occurred unaccounted water loss of 20%, mainly due to hydrant flushing, fire department use and faulty meters. Wysong said maintenance costs should have been factored into the original rate structure. Karin Sauerlender asked if the new water rate factored in increased revenue from greater water sales with new meters and reduced labor costs with remote read meter installed. Ziad said the increase was based on current use, but if a surplus exists at the end of the year and unexpected costs don't occur, rates could remain stable. Mayor Loar said some purchased 1 inch meters and are being replaced with 5/8 inch and complaining about reduced pressure. Ziad said they are to call his office so it can be remedied.

John Hudik asked if anyone toured the Toledo water plant prior to signing contract to purchase water from them, plant in very poor condition.

Karon Lane asked if other alternate sources of water are being pursued. Fulton County Commissioners have made contact with Archbold and Wauseon to start the planning stage of the process to look for alternative source of water, provide the rate is less or same as what we're paying for it from Toledo. One reason looking elsewhere is the large cost of Toledo's plant upgrade; they already approved raising water rates 14% a year for the next four years. City of Toledo and Lucas County looking into forming a regional water system which means eliminating Toledo as a water source but would have to buy Toledo's assets.

Cheryl Geer asked how many years are left on the Toledo/County water contract. Ziad said the 20-year contract expires in 2016. We can terminate from Toledo's contract with a 90-day notice, at any time. Ziad said to date NE has 500 water customers, started with 400.

Tower leg will be removed from behind the Evergreen Community Library mid-summer, waiting to make sure new location and salesman was running smoothly, which it is. Ziad was asked if automatic debit is in the future for water bill payment. Not in the near future, but can pay online.

Cathy Mossing with Park-O-Rama was recognized. Ms. Mossing asked council for permission to lease the park June 21 through June 24 for Park-O-Rama event for one dollar and approve F-permit. In celebration of 50 years, would like to have fireworks display at the former middle school site, pending NW State's approval. Ken Wysong motioned to approve lease and to sign F-permit for sale of alcohol. Second of motion by Karon Lane and approved by all council. Parade changed back to 1:00 p.m.

Men's tournament will be a national qualifier and co-ed games added back in. Wysong asked if Park-O-Rama had plans to spend profits from this year's event. Land & Buildings is looking at re-roofing concession building and trenching in new drainage tile, would they consider helping village pay for work? Mossing said money they make is for park improvements, they have let build up in hopes of purchasing additional park land. Mossing suggested giving her quotes to discuss at their next committee meeting. John Hudik suggested asking EYA for monetarily assistance with park projects.

Memorial Wall – discussed purchase of recognition mounts. Ordering both mounts will cost over \$6,200 and was not budgeted for this year. With the financial information provided her by Mossing and what were on our books her calculations places the fund in the negative by as much as \$1,900. Mossing asked for copies of village bills to update her records, along with 2013 expenses. Mossing said she and Tom Ott are discussing another golf outing this fall to help defray cost of mounts, in the meantime she would like plaques ordered even if Park-O-Rama has to pay for and reimbursed by golf outing proceeds. To cut down on expense Mossing suggested placing one mount on the wall.

Minutes – Cheryl Geer motioned to approve minutes from April 22, 2013 council meeting as written. Second of motion by Suzy Stough and approved by all council.

Bills—were presented for approval.

Bills paid previously:

Metamora Post Office	Postage for income survey	\$ 59.64
Robert Sabo	Wages paid 04-22-13	321.40
Steven Mack	Wages paid 04-22-13	95.00
Norman Vance	Wages paid 04-22-13	1690.28

Current bills to be paid:

Robert Sabo	Wages paid 05-08-13	\$ 345.51
Steven Mack	Wages paid 05-08-13	384.75
Norman Vance	Wages paid 05-08-13	1415.26
Auto Glass Masters	Windshield replacement	205.00

Beroske Farms & Greenhouse	Flowers for memorial wall & curb boxes	205.00
Computer Plus	Laptop computer	525.00
Fessenden Hardware	Bolts, nuts & screws	11.92
Instacopy Printing	Envelopes	49.00
Habitec	Park security monitoring	77.64
Mike's Repair	Tractor tire & cantrim adhesive	168.00
Occuhealth	Pre-employment testing	84.00
Office Max (VISA)	Pens, postcard paper, storage boxes	93.25
John Deere Financial	Oil filter & spark plug	26.16
Sa-So	Signs for restrooms	26.85
Team Sports	Base set & homeplate	250.00
Toledo Edison	Village electric use	1401.15
Tri-County Fuels	Diesel fuel	106.54
Trisha Gleckler	Office cleaning	40.00
Cintas	Uniforms & restroom supplies	34.72
Village of Swanton	Street sweeping	228.00
VISA	Flowers, drinking fountain part, cookies, Baking soda for park barrels	172.29

Bills to be paid later:

EFTPS	April medicare match	\$ 121.18
OPERS	April village match	1163.73
Perry Protech	Maintenance agreement	21.17

Ken Wysong motioned to pay bills. Second of motion by Ned Monroe and approved by all council.

Solicitor's report – Carl Pope Jr. civil lawsuit; had deposition in April, next court date scheduled in August...

New Business – County engineer asking council to pass an ordinance to buy road salt from the county. Village will not be obligated to purchase salt, but without ordinance won't be unable to purchase in the event ODOT doesn't provide village free salt. Ken Wysong motioned to suspend the rules on Ordinance #851, purchasing 25 tons of road salt from the Fulton County Engineer. Second of motion by Cheryl Geer. Roll call vote taken: Geer-yes, Stough-yes, Lane-yes, Wysong-yes, Hudik-yes and Monroe-yes. Cheryl Geer motioned to pass Ordinance #851 under emergency measure. Second of motion by Suzy Stough. Roll call vote taken: Geer-yes, Stough-yes, Hudik-yes, Wysong-yes, Lane-yes and Monroe-yes. **Ordinance #851 passed**

Planning Commission – Requesting council review and take action on the following recommendations to the village zoning code pertaining to **“Keeping of Animals”**. Current regulations do not permit small animals in the village.

Planning Commission's suggested additions and changes are in bold print.

505.16 SMALL ANIMALS

- (a.) 4H, FFA, school projects and similar related projects involving animals, such as dogs, cats rabbits, hamsters, and other small animals not weighing over twenty-five (25) pounds will be allowed. Provided an application is filed with the Zoning Inspector.**
- (b.) Each participant in the project may have a total to two (2) adult animals.**
- (c.) In the vent or a litter, the participant shall have no more than twelve (12) weeks from birth to decide what offspring's if any, shall be retained as adult animals.**
- (d.) Manure shall be disposed of in a proper manner in order that a nuisance not be created.**
- (e.) The care and cleanliness that each participant displays shall determine whether or not the project shall be allowed to continue.**
- (f.) The participant shall maintain records of all births.**
- (g.) The County Extension Agent shall, upon being notified by the Village, examine the project, and if requested file a written report with the Village.**

505.15 Keeping of Animals:

No person shall keep any pig, horse, cow, goat at least three months of age, or any other animal or animals or any fowl or poultry in any pen yard, lot or other enclosure situated within the Village limits. **Nor shall a person keep a combined total of no more than three (3) dogs and cats at least three months of age.**

Section 505.08 NUISANCE CONDITIONS PROHIBITED

(A) No person shall keep or harbor any animal or fowl in the Municipality so as to create noxious or offensive odors or **offensive noises**, or unsanitary conditions which are a menace to the health and comfort or safety of the public.

Revisions to the zoning code require holding a public meeting, giving thirty-day notice to the public. Hearing scheduled for June 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the village office.

Planning Commission recommends village ordinances are re-codified. Get price.

Fiscal officers' report - RFQ's for engineering on Parker Rd/CR2 road improvements went out this week, with responses due May 15. BPA will review May 16th and Council to review at May 20 meeting. Mayor Loar provided trustees with response dates for RFQ's so if interested they could look over. Geer asked if restrooms were being left open now ball practices started. Karin said they have

been and she locks them up at night. Chip asking to buy \$900 worth of fertilize to use at park. Cheryl Geer motioned to transfer funds to allow Chip to fertilize park. Second by Ken Wysong and approved by all council. Evergreen Community Library asking waiver on park shelter rental fee for summer reading program July 16. Karon Lane motioned to waive park shelter fee for the library. Second of motion by Suzy Stough and approved by all council.

Mayor's report – still looking for someone to take over village web page; calendar, agenda, minutes, etc. Ask Evergreen schools who does there's. Street superintendent not comfortable signing seasonal employee's time sheet, stating he's not sure when he starts, because employee goes directly to the park. Council doesn't have a problem with Steve starting back at the park in the morning. Wysong said when park work is done he can help Chip with jobs; picking up sticks, etc. Hudik suggested Steve roll the park again, first time made a big difference. Cheryl Geer said nothing is being done to install helipad behind fire station; do we want to speak to trustees about? Fire Department asked village to put electrical underground to allow for installation of a helipad, which we did, at a cost of \$3,000, now nothing is happening on their end. New fire chief made comment, he doesn't feel it's necessary to install pad, it was the previous fire chief's project. Wysong said he'd speak to trustee Jeff Simon about it.

Adjournment – Ken Wysong motioned to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Second by Suzy Stough and approved by all council

Mayor – Gary Loar

VFO – Karin Sauerlender

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Clendenin

Deputy Clerk