

October 12, 2023 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Palmer at 7:00 p.m. Upon a roll call members Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton, and Webb were present. Clerk Smith was absent and excused.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – Walton added Extension of Village Attorney Engagement under New Business. Bacon moved Request for Purchase to #1 under Old Business and added Discussion of Resolution of Appreciation under New Business. Palmer added Planning Commission Applications under New Business.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – There was a comment that members speak up so everyone could hear.

COMMUNICATIONS – Palmer read resignation from Planning Commission letter from Steve Stepanek.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – A verbal report from Palmer on the Shalda Park ribbon-cutting ceremony and a thank you to the Beach Ambassadors was received.

COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS – Verbal reports from Parks and the Personnel Committees were received. Minutes and a verbal report were received from the Disaster Preparedness Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR PURCHASE - FRONT LOADER FOR DPW – The documentation, including repairs on current equipment and quotes for new equipment, was reviewed. A new loader may be received and paid for in the next fiscal budget. Clarification of the trade-in and consignment prices will be obtained by Friend. **Motion by Rademacher, support from Dye to purchase/place the order for the John Deere at the 10-24-23 Regular meeting. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

APPROVE 9-26-23, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – **Motion by Bacon, support by Walton to approve the minutes. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

RULES OF PROCEDURE 6.2–6.6 - Changes and additions suggested by Palmer and Bacon and included in the documentation were reviewed. There was discussion of adhering to the deadlines for agenda item submission, consent agenda items and differences between Work/Study Session and Regular Meeting agendas. There was consensus on the changes reviewed.

GLEN LAKE LIBRARY REIMBURSEMENT FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH RESTROOM MAINTENANCE – Discussion included whether this would be an illegal expense as it is a Community Library, not under the direct control of the Village. There was consensus that this would not be a legal expense for the Village. Walton will draft a letter to the library with this information.

SOUTH BAR LAKE DRAINAGE DISTRICT REQUEST FOR STAGING – There was discussion of when and what area of the beach parking might be used. There was consensus that anytime between May 15th and Labor Day would not be appropriate. Palmer will communicate with the Drainage District about the available dates and areas to be used.

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FUNDING – SITE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR NEW/ RENOVATE OFFICE SPACE – Documentation from the committee was reviewed. There was discussion of when and how billing and payment may occur. Bacon will confirm these details. There was consensus that this item be moved to the regular meeting for a decision.

PRESENTATION REQUEST- GLEN LAKE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – Palmer reviewed the request included in documentation. Discussion included whether this should be a presentation or public comment. Presentations have been related to Village business. There was consensus that a public comment about millage information would be appropriate. Palmer will contact the superintendent.

Motion by Rademacher, support by Dye to extend the meeting until 9:30 p.m. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

EXTENSION OF VILLAGE ATTORNEY ENGAGEMENT – Discussion included the continuing issues of purchase of property, council meet and greet, road acceptance in the New Neighborhood, and FOIA. **Motion by Walton, support by Dye to extend Mr. Figura's contract to include matters he has dealt with in the past and those for which he is currently engaged. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION – Bacon stated that Carol and John Peterson have been engaged in the testing of S Bar Lake for more than 25 years. Several council members felt appreciation for their efforts should be recognized. There was consensus that this be presented at the regular meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPLICATIONS - With the resignation of Steve Stepanek, Palmer would like to advertise the vacancy. There was consensus Acton could advertise and the appointment will be considered at the regular meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT – Several members commented that they enjoyed this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:12 p.m.

Derith Smith

Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the October 24, 2023, Regular Council meeting.