

**VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2013**

Mayor Hammond called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. He then asked for a Moment of Silence to honor our Men and Women; Past and Present; for their Military Service to our Country.

Mr. Shelton took roll call with the following members present: Mr. Cruz, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Wissinger, Ms. Evans, Mr. Thompson and Ms. Gooden-Kinney. Engineer Grosse, Chief Jordan and Solicitor Hess were also in attendance. Fiscal Officer Hastings was absent.

Ms. Gooden-Kinney made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wissinger to approve the March 4, 2013 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. All members were in favor with the exception of Mr. Cruz who abstained. The motion passed.

Ms. Gooden-Kinney made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wissinger to approve the March 18, 2013 Special Council Meeting Minutes. All members were in favor with the exception of Mr. Cruz who abstained. The motion passed.

Administrative Reports:

A. Mayor's Report – Mayor Hammond had a written response to the “Blue” letter that went out to several residents. He advised Council and the meeting attendees that he would not be discussing this “Blue” letter at tonight’s meeting, however has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2013 to give a State of the Village Address and question and answer session. This is not going to be considered a Special Council meeting.

B. Village Engineer's Report – Engineer Grosse reported the bid opening was held for the 2013 Street Project. A total of 9 bids were received. The quotes ranged from \$ 140,500 - \$ 185,000 with an estimate of \$ 197,000. The lowest bid came in from G & J Paving. Engineer Grosse said the contractor was very comfortable with his bid. They have worked for the Village before. The project consists of Grove Run Road, West Scioto St and the intersection of First and Harsh Alley. The Village has an easement along First Street. Mr. Cruz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton to move forward with this contractor. All members were in favor.

C. Village Solicitor's Report – No report at this time

D. Police Department Report – Chief Jordan gave his report which is on file at the office. Mr. Cruz asked how many reserve officers we have. Chief Jordan reported that we have 4 reserve officers at the present time. Mr. Cruz asked for a status update on getting our Police Department back up to a total of 10 reserve officers which is the number that is in the budget. Mr. Cruz noted we have been at 5 or less reserve officers for quite some time. He feels we need to bring our reserves up full staff for more coverage hours. Mr. Cruz asked Chief Jordan about the OVI's in his report. Did the 2 that were reported include the one that was reported by the Ohio State Patrol? Chief Jordan said no. The two that were reported were by the Commercial Point Officers.

E. Village Administrator's Report – Nothing to report.

F. Fiscal Officer's Report – Mayor Hammond read the following report – As of March 31, 2013 the balances for each fund are as follows: General Fund - \$ 784,147.86; Street Construction – \$ 151,010.50; State Highway - \$ 15,332.25; Parks and Rec - \$ 3,875.00; Permissive Motor Vehicle – \$ 9,387.13; Housing Development - \$ 59,708.76; Water Operating - \$ 1,262,132.18; Sewer Operating - \$ 1,031,399.14; Garbage Operating - \$ 13,976.59.

Legislative Reports

A. Legislative Authority Reports

1. Vidal Cruz – Mr. Cruz wanted to confirm that the meeting scheduled by Mayor Hammond for April 11, 2013 was not considered a “Special Council Meeting”. Mayor Hammond confirmed it was not a Special Council Meeting; however it would be open to the public. He said Solicitor Hess and Village Administrator Shelton would also be in attendance.

2. Nicole Evans – Nothing to report

3. Kimberly Gooden-Kinney – Ms. Gooden-Kinney informed Council that she had purchased a set of Roberts Rules of Order. She would like to follow the parliamentary procedures for all meetings.

4. Jason Thompson – Nothing to report

5. Randy Shelton – Nothing to report

6. Clarence Wissinger – Nothing to report

VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2013

At this time, Mr. Cruz asked for an update on the placement of the street light on the Harsh Alley side of the Walker Point Walk Path. Engineer Grosse said South Central Power has been notified of this change. He will be in contact with them again this week. Mr. Thompson said he had complaints from the residents who live next to the walk path on the Walker Point side. They complain that kids are cutting through their property and messing with their shed. They would like to know if the Village can do anything about this to separate their property from the walk path. Mr. Thompson said there is a 3 rail fence already in place on part of the property and was wondering if the Council would agree to continue this fence to the end of the walk path. Engineer Grosse said he would look into the issue.

At this time, Mr. Mike Struckman asked if he could inform the attendees of a meeting that is coming up. Mayor Hammond allowed Mr. Struckman to speak. Mr. Struckman informed everyone in attendance of the next Agenda 21 meeting that will be held on April 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Commercial Point Methodist Church.

Business Items:

A. Police Department – Mayor Hammond said that he had sent out a recommendation on April 7, 2013 to all of Council with what he thought would work for our department. He recommends no full time positions, keeping the current Chief and Sergeant positions at 30 hours a week and bringing on another part-time officer at 30 hours a week. He feels this would increase our coverage by 33 1/3% and allow 2 officers to be scheduled at all times. He also feels bringing on another officer at less than 30 hours a week would be a great asset to the department. Mr. Thompson said he still stands behind his proposal of a Full-time Chief and Sergeant position and bringing on a part-time officer for 24 hours a week. Mr. Thompson said his proposal (40/40/24) would give the Village 4,912 hours of coverage. Mayor Hammond's proposal (30/30/30) would give the Village 4,680 hours of coverage plus with an additional officer at 8 hours a week would bring the total hours to 5,096 of coverage. Mr. Cruz wanted to point out that Council's position is to set wages and also set positions within the Village. Ms. Evans wants to make sure we obtain the most amount of coverage and still be fiscally responsible. She feels full-time employees would not give you as many hours of coverage due to paid holidays, personnel days and vacation time. Mayor Hammond said the Council approves the position by ways of approving the Employee Guidelines. At the last budget meeting, the part-time position of Police Chief and Police Sergeant were removed. Ms. Hastings noted there would be no money to pay the current officers we have now if the budget would have passed as presented. Therefore, we needed to add these two positions back into the budget to be able to continue to pay our current employees. Mayor Hammond explained just because the money is appropriated in the line items doesn't mean we have to spend it. These are a list of options available for the department once Council decides how to move forward. Solicitor Hess said Council approves the number of employees for the department. The Council does have to approve the recommendation for the Chief position, however the rest of the positions are filled by the Mayor and Chief. Mr. Thompson said after the budget meeting, it was his understanding that the Police Department was moving to (2) full-time positions and (1) part-time positions. Mr. Cruz wanted to remind Council that the money that was allocated into the Police Department budget was temporary to get the budget passed by the County Auditor's time frame. The actual hiring would come later as discussed. Mayor Hammond agreed with Mr. Cruz. Mayor Hammond said the difference between full time and part time was new rules, requirements including physicals and stress testing, and becoming a member of OP&F. Mayor Hammond also stated the money that was paid to OPERS will not transfer to OP&F. Mr. Thompson said the money for OP&F was put into the budget. The stress test the Mayor is talking about is only for baseline purposes in case of possible litigation in the future between the employee and OP&F; it has nothing to do with the Village. He said the OPERS money will not go away. The officers will not "lose" this money. They can withdraw it if they so choose. Mayor Hammond said he was just pointing out the differences. Mr. Thompson feels it is none of the Council's business what the officers do with their money. Mr. Cruz said he never felt we had an overwhelming need to expand our Police Department. He said he was on the Police Committee two years ago, and had a change of heart. He said the residents wanted more visibility. At that time we had 8 reserve officers. We are now down to 3 mobile officers and 1 clerical officer. He said before he looks at paying for a full time Chief, he has challenged Chief Jordan to get our reserve officers back to full staff. Mr. Thompson asked Chief Jordan how many hours a month our reserves work and if they are "career officers". Chief Jordan said the reserve officers we have now all have full time jobs and volunteer their time on our department to keep their certification current. He said a lot of departments in the County have gone to using part time officers paying them minimum wage. That way they can be scheduled. We cannot schedule our reserve officers. Chief Jordan feels he has very qualified reserve officers in the department. He will not hire

VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2013

what he would consider a "liability". Chief Jordan pointed out there was money put in the budget for a part time employee at \$ 10.00 per hour. Mayor Hammond said he wasn't comfortable paying an officer \$ 10.00 per hour who is responsible for carrying a gun and taser while protecting the residents of Commercial Point. Chief Jordan said he was hoping to use our current reserve officers to fill this "part-time" position. Mayor Hammond said Council needs to decide how they want to acquire more coverage. Mr. Shelton said the budget reflects positions, not personnel. He agrees with Mr. Cruz on the reserve officers. He feels the residents want more coverage and more reserves will help with that coverage. He feels moving our current two positions to full time equals spending more money on benefits, OP&F instead of OPERS and a total of 496 paid hours where there is no coverage on the streets. He feels getting more reserves on the street are part of Council's job. Mr. Thompson said hiring quality employees is a concern of his. As an employer, he would rather have full time employees working for him. Mr. Hans Guter of Foxfire Subdivision asked how many reserve officer applications have been turned down for employment. He also asked where our candidates come from. Chief Jordan said he has about ½ dozen applications at the present time. 1 has a bad driving record that he doesn't feel the Village would be able to insure. 1 has bad reviews from previous employers. A few of them are favorable with good reviews. Mr. Cruz asked how long Chief Jordan has been looking to fill these positions. Chief Jordan said several applications have been requested. An officer that just finished the academy will go to a full time position rather than come to Commercial Point and volunteer their time. Mr. Wissinger asked what the qualifications were, to become a reserve officer. Chief Jordan said you had to complete the Peach Officer Training which is 600+ hours of training. Retired officers also qualify, as long as they are still hold a valid certificate. Mr. Gary Joiner of Chestnut Estates spoke to Council about qualified officers. He said he retired from being a police officer after 27 years on the job. He feels a reserve officer only working 16 hours a month, does not keep you sharp or guarantee you are a "qualified" person for the job. He applauds Chief Jordan for taking the time to bring on qualified personnel and not just a body to fill a spot. Mr. Cruz reiterated that he was not opposed to adding additional part time officers; however he would like to see our reserve staff to be increased. Mr. Brad Laxton from Chestnut Estates pointed out that filling a part time 30 hours a week position would take care of a lot of the hours Mr. Cruz is wanting to fill with reserve officers. Mr. Laxton feels a part time employee would be a better choice since they would be more qualified than a reserve officer. Ms. Evans is concerned about full time vs. part time officers due to vacation days, personnel days and paid holiday time off. She feels we will not have 104 covered hours in a week with these benefits for (2) full time employees. Mr. Thompson said he recommends (2) full time officers at 40 hours a week and (1) part time officer at 24 hours a week plus the use of the reserves. He is sticking to his recommendation. Mayor Hammond said Council is challenged to provide the best value for the Village residents. Money has been appropriated now it is up to Council. A calculation of the proposals was done again. Going with 40/40/24 hours a week would give the Village 4,912 street hours once you remove the vacation, personnel and vacation days. A 30/30/30/8 hours a week would give the Village 5,096 street hours of coverage. Mr. Thompson said he still feels our Police Officers are underpaid, however would go along with the option of part time officers. (3) officers at 30 hours a week and (1) officer at 24 or 16 hours a week. At this time, Mr. Cruz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson to table this discussion for further review. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Shelton – Yes, Mr. Cruz – Yes, Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Ms. Gooden-Kinney – Yes; Mr. Thompson – Yes. The motion passed.

B. Administrative Employee Guidelines – Mr. Cruz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson to table this discussion for further review. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Shelton – Yes, Mr. Cruz – Yes, Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Ms. Gooden-Kinney – Yes; Mr. Thompson – Yes. The motion passed.

C. Administrative Employee Pay Schedule – Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson to table this discussion for further review. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Shelton – Yes, Mr. Cruz – Yes, Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Ms. Gooden-Kinney – Yes; Mr. Thompson – Yes. The motion passed.

**VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2013**

Legislation:

Resolution 04-2013 – A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND CONTRACT BETWEEN SCIOTO TOWNSHIP, PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO, THE CITY OF GROVE CITY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO, AND THE VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT, PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO. Ms. Gooden-Kinney made a motion, seconded by Ms. Evans to suspend the three readings. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Thompson – No; Mr. Cruz – No; Ms. Gooden-Kinney – Yes; Mr. Wissinger – Yes; Ms. Evans – Yes; Mr. Shelton – Yes. The motion failed due to needing 5 of 6 members to vote yes. Mayor Hammond informed Council that this will push back the Public Hearing date for the Village. Solicitor Hess feels it is in the best interest of the Village to get this Resolution passed to be able to have the Public Hearing as quickly as possible. He said the delay in holding our Public Hearing will affect the other two entities and could jeopardize any future decisions. Mr. Jim Kuzelka from Front Street asked what the shares are for all entities: Solicitor Hess said the Village would receive 1%, Grove City would receive 10% and Scioto Township would receive 89%. He said the Village is doing nothing but signing a contract and will receive approximately \$ 10,000 for the next 50 years. Mr. Kuzelka asked Mr. Struckman if Scioto Township's money was earmarked for anything. Mr. Struckman said the money has to go into the General Fund and then will be dispersed to the Fire Department. They would like to be able to add 9 employees to their staff. Mr. Struckman said any additional monies would be put towards road repair in the Township. Mayor Hammond reiterated there is no additional tax for the Village of Commercial Point residents. The JEDD tax will be collected from the employees of the Orient Prison. Mr. Guter from Foxfire asked if all 3 entities had to hold a Public Hearing. Solicitor Hess said yes. Mr. Guter feels this is a "no brainer" for Commercial Point. Mr. Jim Walsh of Genoa Crossing said he has worked for the Village of Ashville for several years. He said Ashville entered into a JEDD a few years ago and feels it was the best decision Ashville ever made. He agrees with Mr. Guter that the Council needs to move forward with the JEDD. Ms. Monique Brown of Walker Point asked if Grove City and Scioto Township have had their Public Hearings yet. Mr. Struckman said both entities have their meetings scheduled. Mayor Hammond said all changes Council wanted to see in the contract were completed. AT this time, Mr. Shelton suggested moving the discussion to the COW meeting.

Ordinance 01-2013 - AN ORDINANCE LIMITING ROAD ACCESS FOR COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT WITH IN SUBDIVISIONS LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT, OHIO. Mr. Shelton made a motion to suspend the three readings. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

At this time, Mr. Thompson said he felt the emergency language that is added to the latest legislation is what Council wanted to do away with. That was why he voted no on the suspending of the three readings on the last two items. Mr. Shelton feels the safety of the residents in regards to the agricultural equipment in subdivisions, is very important.

Ms. Gooden-Kinney made a motion, seconded by Ms. Evans to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned.

Joe Hammond, Mayor

Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer