

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING
August 2, 2022**

Mayor Bailey opened the August 2, 2022, Council meeting at 7:00 pm with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Present at the scheduled meeting of Council were Rahe, Angel, Kirkbride, Meyer, and Titkemeier. Others present were, Officer Bersinger, Solicitor, Robert A. Kuhlman, Gene Steele, Sue Frizzell, John Vaughn, Eric Campbell, Douglas Perry, Trever Vaughn, Keirstin Vaughn, Kimberly Vaughn, Duan Martin, Matt Phillips, Bob Schacht, Nathan Schultze, Joanne Busdeker, Eileen Schuerman, and the Clerk.

Minutes: Rahe moved, and Titkemeier seconded to approve the minutes from July 19, 2022. Motion passed 4/5 vote. Rahe-yes; Titkemeier-yes; Angel-Abstain; Kirkbride-yes; Meyer-yes.

Treasurer's Report: Kirkbride moved, and Angel seconded to approve the bills in the amount of \$8743.94. Meyer mentioned the bill that was withheld from the bill listing at the last Council meeting. Clerk stated the bill to the YMCA was for the Pemberville Swim Team in the amount of \$420. The amount reflects the \$420. Motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 1621: ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE OF WOOD COUNTY, OHIO GIVING CONSENT TO THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO COMPLETE BRIDGE INSPECTION SERVICES. 2nd READING

ORDINANCE 1622: ORDINANCE TO MAKE INTRA FUND TRANSFERS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022. 2nd READING
Clerk stated the amount of \$5,000 has been increased to \$10,000 to cover pool wages for the remainder of season.

ORDINANCE 1623: ORDINANCE PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022. 2nd READING
Rahe stated the supplemental is for Pemberville Union Cemetery to finish out the year with wages and maintenance cost.

RESOLUTION 771: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED. 2nd READING

Police Activity Report: Police Activity Report provided.

Mayor deviated from the agenda to present John Vaughn as her appointment as the Villages' new Police Chief. Mayor stated John lives in the Village and is invested in the betterment of the Village and its residents and is her choice to lead the Village police into the future. Rahe moved and Angel seconded to accept the Mayors appointment of John Vaughn under the probationary period of 6-months as the Village Police Chief. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor swore John Vaughn Jr. as the Village of Pemberville Police Chief.

Mayor:

Mayor read a statement to the Village Council regarding the 'unofficial' water tower meeting scheduled on August 6th by Councilman Kirkbride. (Attached)

Mayor stated the Village cleanup this past Sunday turned out very well. Mayor stated people worked very hard and wanted to thank all those that helped.

Mayor stated the Children's program show is this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, please support the kids.

Mayor stated the Pemberville Fair Board is still looking for volunteers. Mayor stated it would be nice to see our Council involved in some fashion.

Mayor stated she will be submitting the grant application for the Bridge St. bridge prior to the next Council meeting on behalf of the Village.

Mayor there is a scrap bin by the Municipal building and will be available for about a week.

Mayor stated she will be meeting with the Commissioners this next week to discuss the disbursement of the 1-million-dollar grant.

Mayor stated she has a meeting with the Ferguson Group on Thursday, August 11, 2022. Mayor stated they are the grant arm of AMP Ohio and will be here to discuss electrical infrastructure grants.

Zoning Report: July report provided. Campbells report stated the “resolve is needed on the nature of the easement on the Bond Street alley between Oak and Hickory St.” Campbell’s report indicates he “thought the area was a former green alley that’s become an easement which has a lot of encroachment issues and may need to be surveyed.”

Council Reports:

Rahe:

Streets, Sidewalks, Lands & Buildings: Rahe reported the committee met with the mason to discuss the Village sign.

Rahe stated the next SSLB meeting is August 9, 2022, at 9:00am.

Angel:

Angel apologized to Council for his previous absences.

Angel stated he listened to the audio from the meetings he was in attendance for and wanted to congratulate the Mayor on securing 1 million in funds from the Commissioners for water lines.

Angel congratulated John Vaughn as the new Police Chief.

Angel thanked PIMA on the cleaning up of the Village and appreciates all those who helped.

Safety Committee: Angel stated the Safety Committee met and discussed the need at the fair and police coverage. Angel stated we have one officer going to Guam on military-leave and another officer that left for employment with the Wood County Sheriff.

Angel stated the striping is completed on the trailer.

Angel stated College Ave. near the condos have been reviewed. Angel stated there has been increased coverage in that area.

Personnel Committee: Angel stated the Water Superintendent was in attendance. Angel stated there was discussion about the water tower meeting coming up and how it has been handled.

Angel stated the 15% medical share for the Deputy Fiscal Officer was discussed. Angel stated he appreciated the Committee tabling the matter while he was absent. Angel stated they are tabling for one more meeting to allow time to look at other options, including a possible wage increase or bonus to cover the 15% employee share.

Kirkbride:

Kirkbride stated he apologized to the water Superintendent for not personally inviting him to the August 6th water tower update meeting.

Kirkbride stated Schultze gave an update on the south end water loop located near Harrison Park.

Kirkbride stated they have found a contractor to do the asphalt work at 6 locations prior to the fair.

Kirkbride stated there was a “dynamic discussion about the way in which the water tower siting was done. Differences of opinions were expressed.”

Kirkbride stated Oberhouse gave an update on some water projects around the new Pember Grove lots.

Kirkbride stated the Mayor gave an update about the meeting with the Ferguson Group on August 11, 2022, and looking at IJJA grants, possible for the north electric substation.

Kirkbride stated the BPA clerk gave an update on the solar ordinance recommendation and the CSX crossing work being done by the 4th or 5th of the month.

Mazur:
Absent

Meyer:
Records Retention Committee: Meyer stated there was meeting with Brenda Ransom, the Wood County Records Manager, regarding records retention and what the Village could do moving forward. Meyer stated we are heading into the right direction and what needs to be gone through can be done by the committee members. Meyer will look and her schedule and coordinate with the committee on days and times to begin sorting boxes of documents.

Titkemeier:
Nothing to report. Reminded Council that the next Planning Commission and Tree Committee meeting will be held in September.

Guest:
Gene Steele:
Steele reported on items for the Park Committee. Steele stated the guard platforms need to be replaced. Steele stated the bleachers at the ball field need a coat of paint. Steele stated the door at the concession stand was left open.

Joanne Busdeker:
Busdeker thanked Angel for answering one of her questions regarding the speed signs on College Ave. Busdeker asked about new street signs and if some could be replaced. Rahe stated she will discuss this with the Street department at their next meeting on Tuesday, August 9th at 9:00am

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

*Audio recording of the meetings are available upon Public Records request.

First of All, I was not consulted about a date or a time for this 'unofficial' meeting this upcoming Saturday. I have commitments that do not allow me to be present. The Children's Theatre play has been the 1st weekend of August for 14 years. It has been posted throughout the Village, on the Marquee and in press releases for some time. The kids and I have been working since early June to present this. Hence, I will not be present.

But that doesn't mean that I don't have a comment on this unofficial meeting. I do. In fact, I have a lot. I'm going to take the time to express my thoughts on this subject. This meeting is being held in the name of communication. Yet information about this meeting WAS NOT communicated. NO KEY PERSONNEL involved, not me, not Steve Darmofal, not Nathan Schultze, not the BPA was informed. Communication, the word that this council has used to beat me over the head with for the past year, was lacking. I am done with this word. Done. The business of this Village is open, the residents of this Village have several opportunities to find out what is happening at any given time. My cell number is widely available. I have a phone in my office, no one calls to ask a thing.

In regard to the Water Tower. There was an open meeting last year. Notices were posted and put in every door in the Village. The meeting was posted on Facebook. Of the over 1350 residents in this Village, approx. 55 attended. That is 4% of the population of the Village. 4%. And not everyone in that group was against the water tower, making that percentage even smaller. On top of that, following that meeting, only 3-4 people came to subsequent BPA meetings. And those 3-4 that did, they stopped coming after 3 meetings. On top of that, we elected council and BPA seats that November. Of 3 council seats, All those seats were unopposed, and one left unfilled. For BPA, the one empty seat went unchallenged, NO ONE RAN.

In the past year, BPA has not had anyone come to a meeting regarding the water tower since the 2nd week in September. NO ONE. Outside of Mr. Kirkbride, who is assigned to report on the BPA, no councilmember has attended a single BPA meeting this year, and only one other councilperson has been too few BPA meetings in the past year. Now you are planning to have an informational meeting about the water tower, of which you have no firsthand knowledge. This meeting which, while touted as informational, will do nothing but stir up discontent in this Village. This informational meeting which is giving false hope to residents (the less than 3%) that they have a say in the placement of this tower.

Going back to the meeting in the park last year. When the BPA stated the location on the basketball courts, there was push back. So, it was asked if moving it onto the school property would be a better choice. Many agreed that it would be. As a result, I went to the school board and asked for property. We did soil borings to check the bedrock present. After several meetings, the school board gifted us the land. And so, the BPA proceeded.

The area chosen is recommended by our engineer for several reasons. The area chosen is recommended by our fire chief for several reasons. The area chosen is recommended by our water superintendent for several reasons. And on top of all that, the area chosen is the most fiscally responsible of the Village.

NOW, after all this time, with open meetings, posted minutes, Facebook and all the communications available, *now*, when the clock is ticking on obtaining grant funding, *now* when the ducks are lined up to proceed with the process, we have an 'unofficial' communication meeting?

I am beyond frustrated. I have spent countless hours working toward moving the ball as far as I can with our infrastructure. I have gone after funding that no other Mayor has pursued. I've been successful for the most part, but I am being thwarted by a council that desires to stop that motion without any knowledge of the process.

Why in the world, council believes that it is okay to stir up people's emotions a few weeks from when proceeding with a project in the name of communication escapes me. The meddling has now cost the Village yet another public servant after being personally attacked in a public setting. This was unacceptable, but it has become a bit of a norm for this council.

You are elected officials, sworn to serve the Village in the best way possible. Studying a subject BEFORE commenting or informing others. It is your responsibility to know of which you speak. None of you have the knowledge to comment on this water tower, with maybe the exception of Mr. Kirkbride, and it is obvious that he is very much jaded on the subject.

I am giving you all my thoughts on this project. I have laid out the facts as to why this tower needs to be placed on the school property and why we need to proceed. I am not discussing the other possible locations because there are none. This is the place where we will be locating the tower. It is up to the Council to support this decision for the benefit of the Village.

I am not here to answer questions about the tower tonight. That would have been at the BPA meeting held last night.

It is my hope that this council starts to work together for the betterment of the village. We have a ton of work to do. Teams pull together, not apart.