

West Union Village Council

March 23, 2021

West Union Village Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on 3-23-2021, at the Municipal Building, with Mayor Jason Buda presiding. Call to order, pledge to the flag, and roll call: John R Lafferty – present, Mark Brewer – present, Jason Francis – present, Donna Young – present, Randy Brewer – present, Steve Rothwell - present; also in attendance: Tanya Johnson – Clerk, Shelley Gifford – Treasurer, Jerry Kirker – Village Administrator/ Fire Chief, Danni Studebaker – WULS, Lisa Rothwell - Solicitor. Visitors: Ashley McCarty – People’s Defender, Stanley Matthews, Veronica Grooms, Lt. Ryan Myers, Margaret Edwards.

Paul Brown spoke to Council about the food truck on the Courthouse Square; no action was taken.

Motion by Randy Brewer to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting on 3-23-2021 with the correction on Resolution 2021-3 where the second was made by Mark Brewer; second by Jason Francis, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

Motion by Steve Rothwell to approve payment as submitted, second by Mark Brewer, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

Resolution 2021-4 amend the 2021 Appropriations – 2903 Emergency Medical Services Fund by \$18,675.00, motion by Steve Rothwell, second by Randy Brewer, roll call vote: all yea, resolution passed.

Report from Jerry Kirker, Village Administrator/Fire Chief:

1. Kirker told Council the Village would be getting \$620,000.00 in stimulus money; the Adams County Commissioners will be getting 5.3 million.
2. Discussion on the fire contract with Brush Creek Township, motion by Jason Francis to accept the terms, the Village will show proof of insurance and the township will increase the coverage payment to \$5000.00 per year, with an increase of a \$1000.00 per year, second by Mark Brewer, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.
3. The Village Administrator talked about getting new water meters. The meters the Village has are over 10 years old. Price for a meter is \$198.00; no action was taken.
4. Kirker requested an insurance meeting. The meeting will be on April 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. before the next Council meeting.
5. The bid packet for the sidewalk on SR 41S is on CT Consultants website.
6. After some checking, the Village Administrator found that half of the Humane Society land is in the corporation limits. Kirker will be checking with Jessica Huxmann on this matter.

Council member Jason Francis asked Jerry Kirker if the Water/Sewer/Street Department building is still locked to the public. Kirker acknowledges it was. Motion by Jason Francis to have all of the Village offices opened to the public, while following the Health Department guidelines, second by Donna Young, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

Kent Bryan, CT Consultants, announced the new wastewater treatment plant will be turned on June 1, 2021.

Danni Studebaker, WULS, advised Council on the number of runs so far this year and since last meeting. She told Council the runs are still down from last year. The billing company informed her she will now be able to charge for the drugs that are used on a run. Studebaker is still working on a program to transfer patients.

Motion by Steve Rothwell for executive session ORC 121.22 G1 personnel, second by Mark Brewer, roll call vote: all yea. Motion by Jason Francis to return to regular session, second by Steve Rothwell, roll call vote: all yea.

Lt. Ryan Myers talked about the cost of new computers and software for the cruisers. Council decided to take this to a Police & Safety Committee Meeting.

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The Clerk spoke to Council about running an ad for another police officer. Council member Jason Francis will run a press release in all of the newspapers.

Mayor Jason Buda introduced Margaret Edwards and recommended her to become an auxiliary officer for the Village. Motion by Jason Francis to take the Mayor's recommendation of Margaret Edwards to become an Auxiliary Police Officer, second by Steve Rothwell, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed. Buda told Council Jaimie Bayless, Mayor's Court, has requested new software for the court system. Council will take this to the Police & Safety Committee Meeting.

Lisa Rothwell, Solicitor, told Council she has been quite busy with the Brush Creek Township contract, personnel job descriptions, food truck permit, small business Saturday, and five new Mayor's Court cases.

The Clerk told Council the local taxes due date was changed to May 17, 2021, to follow with the federal tax date.

Council member Donna Young made a motion to hire Stanley Matthew as the Community Enforcement Officer; pay will be \$10.00 per hour, 30 hours per week, starting March 29, 2021, and all paperwork must be filled out before start date, second by Mark Brewer, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

The Clerk asked the Mayor if he had checked on the health fair. He answered no, but he will. Also, Johnson requested a Finance Committee Meeting for the Water Operating Fund and the Street Construction Fund; no action was taken.

Council member Jason Francis discussed having a graduation procession for the seniors this year, the same as last year. Motion by Jason Francis to have the graduation procession, second by Steve Rothwell, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

Shelley Gifford, Treasurer, gave the Council information for the Life Squad's employees, which was requested by Council member Francis. Council members stated this information will need to go to a couple of committee meetings.

Council member Jason Francis spoke to Council on applying for COVID Care Act money and the usage of this money. Francis also told Council about the Village Facebook page, Ethics training for all employees, new drug house on North Street, neighborhood watch group classes, and new job descriptions for all employees.

Council member Donna Young thanked Officer Margaret Edwards for joining our Police Department. Young thanked Stanley Matthews for the nice interview and welcomed him to the Village.

After some discussion, the Council decided that the committee meetings were as follows:
April 13, 2021 – Personnel at 5:30 p.m., Police & Safety at 6:00 p.m., Insurance at 6:30 p.m.;
April 27, 2021 – Finance at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Jason Francis to have the agenda distributed the same way; for a person to be put on the agenda they must speak to the Village Clerk by 11:00 a.m. Friday before the Council meeting. If an emergency happens, the Clerk must be informed no later than Monday at 11:00 a.m. so a revised copy of the agenda can be placed in the Council mailboxes; second by Donna Young, roll call vote: all yea, motion passed.

Treasurer Shelley Gifford told Council that if the Village gets the \$620,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan, some of the money should be earmarked for a new life squad.

Other items discussed were the warning siren and black top needed on Logans Lane.

Motion by Donna Young to adjourn, second by Jason Francis, roll call vote: all yea, meeting adjourned.