

LEESBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL
“SPECIAL MEETING”
April 9, 2020
Mayor Shawn C. Priest, Presiding

Mayor Shawn C. Priest called the **special** session of the Leesburg Village Council to order on Monday, April 9, 2020 at 6:00 PM virtually by “GoToMeeting” due to COVID-19. No invocation was given and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Mrs. Rita Smith Daulton, Mr. John Michael, Ms. Blythe Pelham, Mr. Kenny Worley and Mr. Richard Tolle. Mr. Chris Runyon was absent.
Also present: Fiscal Officer Tracy Evans.

Also attending: No visitors

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: approve the February minutes and bills. Also listen to an updated COVID-19 report from Mayor Priest.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. John Michael moved and Richard Tolle seconded to approve the minutes for the February 20, 2020 regular Council meeting. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- b. Council reviewed the bills paid in February 2020. Richard Tolle moved and Blythe Pelham seconded the bills be approved. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mayor Shawn C. Priest informed Council the Village of Leesburg will not be declaring an emergency.
- Mayor Priest told Council that during COVID-19 we have some employees that are trying to stagger work hours and she feels the employees should not have to use their sick time or vacation time for this. In addition, if an employee has symptoms of the virus they should not have to use their sick time to quarantine to keep our other employees safe. Council agreed with Mayor Priest.
*Blythe Pelham moved and John Michael seconded for employees to be paid for staggering hours or if they are sick during COVID-19 in lieu of taking sick/vacation time. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- Mayor Priest stated to Council that Utility Clerk Becky Hurst has spoken to Greenfield and they are not charging penalties for past-due utility bills. Mayor Priest feels that Leesburg also should not charge penalties due to the current situation. After discussion, Council agreed penalties should not be charged.
*Kenny Worley moved and Rita Smith-Daulton seconded to not charge penalties on the utility bills until further notice. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.
- Mayor Priest updated Council on the progress of the current projects. Highland County Water Company is extending their service line to Pausch Road. The Village will be able to tap into the line out by the school. This would allow us water for emergencies such as major leaks that would deplete our water tower. Mr. Jim Henry (Village grant writer) feels the stimulus package coming could help us with this funding. In addition, we could get a planning grant that could help with engineering cost of the project. We could also use the funding for sidewalks at the school, replace the #4 High Service pump and have all four

pumps running again, and design for more capacity with High Rock Road expanding just to name a few projects. Mayor Priest stated she feels we should try for the grant funds and if we find out the Village will be responsible to pay for a big portion of the grant, we can simply not accept the funds at that time.

*Kenny Worley moved and Blythe Pelham seconded to apply for the stimulus funds as they become available. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

- Blythe Pelham asked the Mayor if we had any type of program we could put in place to check on our elderly or neighbors. Mayor Priest stated she was doing Face Book post regarding voting and census and she could add this request to check on the elderly and your neighbors in her post.
- Mayor Priest reported only 6 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Highland County.
- Mayor is involved in meetings daily with Highland County Emergency Management and every Thursday with the Mayors across Ohio keeping each other informed on what's going on in their area.
- Councilman Worley asked Mayor Priest what was going on with Candle-lite. Mayor Priest stated that Candle-lite has applied to the Resolution Committee for the State but as of now, they are not considered essential and are not allowed to operate.
- Mayor Priest stated all meetings will be held virtually through "GoToMeeting" until further notice. Next regular scheduled meeting will be Thursday, April 16, 2020.

- Richard Tolle moved and John Michael seconded to adjourn at 6:56 PM. Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.