

Crooksville Council Workshop
Minutes Monday, December 9th, 2019

Mayor Redfern calls the Council meeting to order. The following members were present: Chris Rice, Scott Locke, Bill Hampton, Billie Smith, Chris Mohler, and John Loomis. Tom Collins and Amy Utsch were also present.

Mayor Redfern passed out handouts on the dangers of second hand smoke that he had received from the Perry County Health Department. The Health Department would like to see that the Village Park become a smoke free location.

First up on the agenda for the evening was a reminder that the bid opening will be Thursday, December 12th, at 10:00 a.m. for the Morgan County Reservoir Breeching Project. The Council can then accept/approve the low bid Monday, 16th at the regularly scheduled meeting. The estimate for this project is \$250,000.

Lepi's initial estimate to clean up the "Main Street" property was \$55,720. The actual dumpster count of material that had to be hauled away was 30. They originally estimated that it would take 40 dumpsters to remove all of the debris. Lepi's final invoice was \$45,140. That puts it \$10,580 below what was originally estimated/expected.

The water bill for the month of November was 7,144,047 gallons (230,453 gallons per day). Prior to the water improvement project, the average monthly water bill was approximately 11-12 million per month. This is an estimated savings of \$20,000 per month, or \$240,000 per year. This is a huge savings. With this amount of savings, the water project is helping to pay for itself.

The Small Shelter house is scheduled to have the metal (white) soffit installed in the ceiling next week. MHCC (Matt Headley) will be the one doing the project. The material is estimated to cost 44,308.43, the labor to install the ceiling and the overhang is estimated to cost \$3,220.00. With a total of \$7,528.43. There has already been vandalism activity to the new Park Restroom. There was damage done to the door, the handle was tore off. More secure door handles will be placed on the doors. The conduit that was tore down will also need to be replaced. The gates to the park will be closing very soon. Hopefully this cuts down on some of the vandalism that is taking place. People are always able to walk into the park, so The Village will look into the placement of the cameras and capturing the people who are responsible for doing the damage to the park, shelter houses, and the restrooms and be able to hold them accountable for the damages and the expenses that they have caused.

At the last Council Workshop meeting Council was given the planned Credit Card Policy, as well as a check list of things that are required to be implemented in the policy. Tom asks if Council has had a chance to review the Policy, and if they have any questions or feel that there are any changes that need to be made. Amy has not had a chance to review the policy, but will review it this week, so if there are any changes that she would like to see made it can be updated, and the policy can then be implemented.

Due to the Holidays coming up there will not be a Council Meeting on December 23. Also, a reminder that due to the fact that the 30th will be the 5th Monday of the Month there will not be a meeting on that

day either. This will be put on our Facebook page as well as on our website to let the public know about the change. Monday, December 16th will be the last Village Council meeting for 2019.

The Youth Wrestling program would like to use the upstairs room of the Rec Center for wrestling. Council has is great concern that there are mirrors and other things that could be broken if they use the upstairs room. Council feels that it would be much better for them to use the stage area at the end of the basketball court for wrestling practices. They also feel that practice would need to be closed to the participants only, not the parents and siblings. In most cases it is not the participants of the activity that are causing the destruction to the Rec Center it tends to be the siblings who are unattended to wonder the Rec center and cause the problems. They feel if they get the lockers off of the stage there would plenty of room to unroll mats and for them to have their practices. Decisions will have to be made on what price will be charged for the use of the Rec Center for the use of it for practices as well as for the wrestling meets. For the Basketball program we get 100% of the gate money.

February we will make the last payment on the Rec Center. After that it will be easier to rent out the Rec Center for reunions and receptions. Both of those are big money maker and will help bring in a greater amount of income to the Rec center. Over the past several years the Rec Center has lost between \$24,000 and \$31,000 per year. We need to look at new ways of cutting costs and bringing in more revenue. We need to make sure that the programs that utilize the Rec Center are bringing in more money than what it costs to have it available to the program. Discussion is held on whether or not the Archery program is causing a financial loss. The question is asked if it cost more to have the heat, and to have the lights on than what the program is actually bringing in. During the 2016 year the archery program brought in \$241, and during the 2017 year it brought in \$340. On average the basketball program brings in between \$4000 and \$8000 per year.

Rocky Chevalier has a few questions for Council. He wants to know if the Village Park were to become a smoke free facility if there would be any money available through the Health Department. If that were to happen the financial aspect would be very minor. There is discussion when the Park would be closing its gates for the year. Every year the gates to the park that enables vehicles to drive in close around this time. The park will have open gates on and off until MHCC is through with their work at the Small Shelter House. Rocky was curious to see if they were interested in the vacant property registration through MuniReg. MuniReg will not be back to another meeting until after the Village Solicitor has had a chance to go over the contract. Questions will not be able to be answered until after that time. Rocky also has questions about properties that have burned down, and how that works with the insurance, and if they would qualify to be taken care of by the Land Bank. Mayor Redfern explains that when there is a fire and the home is insured that the fire department notifies them and the insurance company has to notify the Village. There has to be money put away into an escrow account by the Fiscal Officer of the Village. This is to ensure that the homeowner does not spend all of their insurance money on purchasing a new home, and the Village gets left to clean up the mess after the fire. After the property is cleaned up, if there is still money left in the escrow account that money would then be returned to the home owner. If the property was not insured, and abandoned, then there would be the possibility that the Land Bank would be able to come in and clean up the property.

Sharon Akers wants to know if any progress has been made to get a street light put on Heskett street. She is told that it is a work in progress, and that it is the plan to get the street light put up on Heskett Street in the future.

Mayor Redfern is curious as to if Council would be interested in getting the Arts Council started back up. Tom feels that it would be a good thing to get started again. Mayor Redfern is going to spend some time with his last few weeks as Mayor working on getting something in place. He would like to see the Arts Council to start back up.

With no further questions or comments Mayor Redfern calls the meeting to adjournment.

Fred Redfern

Mayor

Amy Utsch

Fiscal Officer