

# VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

February 11, 2013

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

Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson to approve the January 14, 2013 COW Minutes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

Solicitor's Report – No report

Mayor's Report – No report

Engineer's Report – No report

2013 Budget Discussion – A very lengthy discussion was held on the budget. Mr. Thompson highlighted some areas where he felt increases needed to be made. He would like to see the Chief's position be moved to 40 hours a week with an annual salary of \$ 42,000. He would like to see the Sergeant's position be moved to 40 hours a week with an annual salary of \$ 33,280. He proposed adding a part-time officer working 24 hours a week at a rate of \$ 10.00 per hour. OPERS, Worker's Comp, Medicare and the uniform allowance were also increased to include the extra coverage. Mr. Thompson made a few other suggestions within the Police budget in regards to money reserved for a cruiser, auxiliary officer pay and repairs to the vehicles. Mr. Thompson feels our Chief of Police and Sergeant positions are underpaid. He compared our Village to other villages in the area. He said 75% of Columbus' budget is spent on Public Safety. 55% of Grove City's budget goes to Public Safety. He feels the additional coverage he is proposing is very much needed especially since we do have schools in our Village. Mr. Shelton disagrees with Mr. Thompson and feels we have enough Police protection now. Village Administrator Shelton feels the schools are safe due to having an officer

on site. Chief Jordan informed Village Administrator Shelton that our schools do not have any police protection on site. The only protection they have is when we have an officer on duty.

Council continued through the budget adjusting a few items here and there. Major projects that are on the list to be completed this year were discussed to make sure there was enough money set aside. There were a few changes made. A Special Council Meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the budget and finalize numbers for the approval at the March 4, 2013 Regular Council Meeting.

Mayor Hammond discussed the Walker Point Walk Path and the issues he has with how the people are dropped off right on to Harsh Alley. He is working with the fence company to have the end of the walk path stop before it dead ends onto Harsh Alley. He feels this is a safety issue that needs to be addressed immediately. Additional items Mayor Hammond is working on include: 1) security cameras in the Municipal Building; 2) construction barricades will be purchased and placed at every dead-end road within the village; 3) work with the Middle School to place posts by the lift station and school gates so that people will stop going around the gates; 4) the "Welcome" sign on Borrer Road needs to be repaired.

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned.

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Kimberly Gooden-Kinney, President of Council

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Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer