

VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

April 20, 2015

Mr. Wissinger called the meeting to order. Fiscal Officer Hastings took roll call with the following members present: Ms. Evans, Mr. Sadler, Mr. Laxton, Mr. Geiger, and Mr. Wissinger. Chief Jordan and Solicitor Hess were also present. Mayor Hammond, Mr. Shelton and Engineer Grosse were absent.

Mr. Sadler made a motion seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve the March 16, 2015 COW Minutes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

Solicitor Hess had no report this evening.

Mayor Hammond was absent so no report.

Engineer Grosse was absent so no report.

Mr. Wissinger asked if anyone had any additional items. Mr. Geiger said that he had attended the Scioto Township Meeting. He said the trustees voted down the 40 hours of coverage a week contract with the Sheriff. He said the main reason for voting it down, was more information was needed. Mr. Geiger feels if the township goes into contract with the Sheriff, it would be good for the Village as well since it would add an additional 40 hours of coverage for us since we are in the township. Mr. Geiger said there was discussion about which roads would be repaired as well during their meeting. Ms. Evans asked if a Sheriff contract for the township was a new topic that was being discussed. She said Southern Point has been after some protection for quite some time. Mr. Geiger said a proposal was put together quickly giving the township 40 hours of coverage per week. Ms. Evans asked if it was specific to Southern Point. Mr. Geiger said it was for all of Scioto Township. Mr. Geiger said Sheriff Radcliff did say a contract was awarded with the township, the hours of coverage would not overlap with the Village hours of coverage. He said this would give the Village 130 hours of coverage. Ms. Evans asked Mr. Struckman if he had any comments he would like to make at this time. Mr. Struckman said Sheriff Radcliff and Terry Brill had been working on this since the first of the year. He said the other trustees found out about it about two weeks before the last meeting. Mr. Struckman said the residents at Southern Point are the ones pushing for this. He said he reviewed some of the call reports that had been taken from Southern Point. He said one was from a lady whose two daughters were at home fighting and the lady couldn't leave work to take care of the issue. He said another lady had reported that her 17 year old son wouldn't come home and she wanted the Sheriff's help in making him come home. He said there were other calls where kids were fighting and the Sheriff was called to break up the fights. Mr. Struckman said he wasn't interested in putting \$ 50,000 - \$80,000 out for babysitting. He said that is not what the Sheriff is for. He said if that is the only reason for wanting the Sheriff, he suggested giving them ball bats and let them take care of their own kids. He said in his opinion, the contract is poorly written. He said it didn't guarantee any hours and the monthly reports would have to be paid for once you received them. Mr. Struckman said the Village receives a monthly report from the Fire Chief and are not asked to pay for it. Village Administrator Shelton said she feels it is a misprint. She said the fee for the monthly report was included in our contract as well, however when the Sheriff was questioned about it, he said the wording

wasn't supposed to be in there. Mr. Geiger said he had asked about the hours of coverage. He said the Sheriff told him that one experienced deputy would be working 40 hours a week dedicated to the township. He said travel time from Circleville would not be included in the 40 hours. He said if our contract would go through, they would be using our substation and would not have to be going back and forth to Circleville. Mr. Struckman said the people that he talked to in the township, not including Southern Point, were not for going into contract with the Sheriff. He said the people he spoke with would rather see a squad purchased. He said another gentleman told him he would rather see 168 hours of coverage with the squad than 40 hours of coverage with the Sheriff. Mr. Struckman said we are the third largest township in the area with the most amount of roads. He said the Sheriff ought to be spending more time here. He said the Sheriff's budget is \$ 6.1 million dollars and Scioto Township is paying a large portion of that. He figured between 20-23%. Mr. Wissinger asked how the tax gets assessed. Mr. Struckman said it is done through property tax collection. Mr. Wissinger asked what the population for the township is. Mr. Struckman said the census said 12,000. Mr. Wissinger asked how many miles of road. Mr. Struckman said approximately 44 miles. Mr. Struckman said over half of the people of Pickaway County live in either Scioto Township or Circleville. Mr. Sadler asked if Commercial Point residents were included in the census numbers. Mr. Struckman said he thought they were. Mr. Sadler said that he spoke with Mr. Brill regarding whether or not the contracted hours would include Commercial Point. He said Mr. Brill told him it would only cover the township. Mr. Struckman said the village is in the township so yes we would be covered. Mr. Sadler said he would follow up with Mr. Brill to ask him why he answered the way he did. Mr. Geiger said he found out that on a normal shift, the Sheriff has 3-4 patrol cars covering the County. He said they have contracts with other places in the County that are not included in the 3-4 car coverage. Mr. Geiger said Sheriff Radcliff told him that the west side of the County has 2 cars patrolling at all times. Ms. Evans asked Mr. Struckman why he feels he is getting a different response from the township people than we are getting from the Village people. Mr. Struckman said the township is made up of older residents that take care of things on their own and Commercial Point is made up of newer, younger people that are coming from the city and are used to seeing more police. Mr. Struckman said by the time the Sheriff would get to his house, the issue would already be resolved. He said he would rather have a squad and know that someone is going to come and take care of the situation. Mr. Struckman said the reasons Southern Point residents want more coverage is because of speeding cars and kids running across someone else's yard. He said he knows there are four deputies that live in that area and he feels they should take care of it. He said there are two people that show up to the meetings to complain about it. Village Administrator Shelton asked why both the Sheriff contract and purchase a new squad couldn't be done. She said we fought hard for the JEDD and knows the money is coming in. Mr. Struckman said the bottom line is there isn't enough money for both. He continued to say that a grant had been extended allowing the fire department to keep a few more fireman on board, however the grant will be expiring in July of 2015. He said once this grant expires, the township will have to start paying for 2 people per shift, totaling 6 people. He said if they are going to keep the same number of people, the monies will have to be set aside for these folks.

Mr. Sadler asked Chief Jordan if our police department could contract with the township for supplying their police protection. Chief Jordan said we could. Mr. Sadler told Mr. Struckman that we could be another option for protection.

Mr. Wissinger asked Chief Jordan how many hours are being worked right now. Chief Jordan said between 70-80 hours between himself and Officer Greathouse. Chief Jordan said Mayor Hammond

gave him permission for the two of them to work extra hours to make sure the school days are covered but to not go over the 40 hour limit unless it's an emergency. Chief Jordan said three candidates were interviewed for the vacant position by himself, Mayor Hammond and Mr. Shelton. He said two of the three did very well in the interview while the other one just didn't seem to be a good fit. Chief Jordan said one of the two candidates has experience and is a reserve officer in Reynoldsburg and is looking to get a paid position. He said his current employer is willing to work their schedule around the hours that he would be working here. Chief Jordan said the other candidate doesn't have road experience, however she is a dispatcher with Franklin County and has experience working in a law enforcement environment. He said she is familiar with the reporting system we use as well as the LEADS program. She has also done ride a-longs with the deputies. Chief Jordan said both candidates have their OPATA certificates. Chief Jordan said he was told by Mayor Hammond and Mr. Shelton to wait and see what the outcome of the May 4, 2015 meeting was before he took his next step. Mr. Wissinger asked Chief Jordan if he felt there was an emergency need to get a contract with the Sheriff. Chief Jordan said no. He said it would only be for the month of May until school ended. He said as of now the school hours and Friday and Saturday nights are being covered. Mr. Sadler wanted clarification from Chief Jordan on if Mayor Hammond told him to hold off on moving forward with the hiring process. Chief Jordan said he himself can't hire anyone and it has to be the Mayor. He said Mayor Hammond said he wanted to wait and see what Council's opinion was on May 4, 2015 before he employed someone. Mr. Sadler asked if Officer Greathouse's confirmation would also be during the May 4, 2015 meeting. Chief Jordan said yes. Mr. Wissinger asked if there was going to be a Safety Committee meeting before the May 4, 2015 Council Meeting. It was decided that a Safety Meeting would be held on April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Fiscal Officer Hastings will post the notice. Chief Jordan said at the last Safety Committee Meeting a proposal was presented and handed out with short term plans as well as long term plans for the police department. He said he would get a copy to Mr. Laxton and Mr. Wissinger and offered to have a meeting with them to discuss the matter if they would like.

Fiscal Officer Hastings confirmed that the Zoning Committee meeting scheduled for April 25, 2015 has been cancelled. Mr. Laxton said that was correct.

Ms. Evans asked for an update on the proposal that was presented for the center of town. She said Council funded it and she wants it to move forward. Mr. Laxton said he would get a final quote. Mr. Sadler asked if Council had voted on the improvements. Mr. Wissinger said it had been funded but no final vote had been taken. There was discussion on what the next steps would be, proposals, purchase orders etc. Mr. Sadler asked that the quote be specific, for example what does each tree cost.

Ms. Evans asked where we are with the dump trucks in the Village. Solicitor Hess said we received an application to rezone the property. He said it will need to go before the Board of Zoning where a vote will need to be taken on the proposed zoning change. Solicitor Hess said there was some questionable language in our ordinance pertaining to ODOT, however it doesn't pertain to this piece of property. Ms. Evans asked for clarification that they were wanting to rezone the property as business. Solicitor Hess said that was correct. Mr. Wissinger asked a few questions regarding the culvert at the end of the driveway. Solicitor Hess said that ODOT doesn't have to be involved however he feels there needs to be some provisions regarding the culvert. He continued to say that Engineer Grosse had denied the property owner's request to work in our right of way based on the opinion that was given by Solicitor Hess. He said if in the rezoning process, if Council would like to readdress the culvert issue, they may do so. He said he doesn't think there is anything that requires the apron over the culvert to be asphalted,

however during the rezoning process these changes could be brought up. Mr. Wissinger said the issue is safety for the vehicles and motorcycles that travel that curve and having mud on the street isn't a good thing. Solicitor Hess said we do have provisions regarding debris and excessive mud on our Village streets. Ms. Evans said this is a very important matter for her. She feels the property owners are doing what they want to do on the property and now coming back and asking for forgiveness. She said if they can keep it as is and not have to do any improvements, she wouldn't want to be their neighbor. Mr. Geiger asked Mr. Clemens if he would be approved to have this property rezoned, would he be willing to put up a building like what is across the street since that is what they keep comparing it to. Mr. Geiger said Mr. Clemens told him he would be willing to put up a structure. Ms. Evans said if Council approves to rezone the property, they can continue to operate as they are doing now and keep asking for forgiveness opening the door for other residents to do the same.

Mr. Laxton asked where we are with the alleys. Solicitor Hess said there was no vote on the ordinance to vacate the alleys. He said there were a few questions mainly regarding who is responsible for the ditch. He said this responsibility will remain with the Village. Solicitor Hess said Engineer Grosse had requested an easement through portions of the alley and is working on the paperwork that is necessary. Mr. Wissinger asked if we would have to pay for the easements. Solicitor Hess said no because as of right now we still own the property and there are no fees that are due. Solicitor Hess said the property would be split down the middle and given to the adjacent property owners. The Village would have an easement down the center of the two properties.

Ms. Evans asked for an update on sidewalks. Village Administrator Shelton said Engineer Grosse is putting together a plan. It will be done in phases with costs included. Ms. Shelton said we should have more information by the next Council meeting. Ms. Evans said there were a few places that needed to be cleaned up and feels these should be a priority. Village Admin Shelton said they were a part of the plan.

Mr. Sadler asked what road projects were going to be done this year. Mr. Geiger said Walker Road is on the list. Village Administrator Shelton said she thought it was decided to not do Walker Road until the building was complete in Walker Point. Ms. Evans said the main spot on Walker Road that needs attention is at the intersection with St. Rt. 762. Mr. Geiger said there was no major road replacements this year however a lot of repair work was going to be looked at. Mr. Geiger said Engineer Grosse told them that Walker Road was the worst road in the Village however he didn't want to do anything until all the building was complete in Walker Point. Mr. Sadler said he understood where we are with Walker Road but there are other roads in the Village. He said Genoa Crossing had been brought up a few times as well. Mr. Geiger said they asked Engineer Grosse about Genoa Crossing. Engineer Grosse told them that it wasn't in bad shape and didn't need to be repaved. Mr. Sadler asked Council to review all the roads and to take notice and report back to Council anything they see that needs repaired. Village Administrator Shelton said she along with Mayor Hammond and Engineer Grosse, will be taking some time and driving throughout the Village documenting what they feel needs to be repaired. Mr. Sadler asked when that would be taking place. Village Administrator Shelton said probably in the next month.

Mr. Laxton asked for an update on the wells. Ms. Evans asked if Engineer Grosse had given an update at the last meeting. It was explained that there was no meeting on April 2, 2015 due to not having a quorum.

Ms. Evans made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laxton to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned.

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Randy Shelton, President of Council

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Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer