



**Village of Commercial Point
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2023**

Ms. Geiger called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Administrative Assistant Baldwin took roll call with the following members present: Ms. Geiger, Ms. Plybon, Mr. Mitchem, Ms. Ratliff, Ms. Wolfe, and Mr. Crego.

CRA, TIF, NCA, Additional Millage:

Mike Dean, attorney for Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, provided the Council with a broad Public Finance Overview. He discussed the benefits to the village.

Upcoming Legislation:

Solicitor Cartee informed the Council that an agreement has been reached with ODOT for the traffic signal maintenance at State Route 762 and Kenmore Blvd. He said legislation should be in front of the Council for the April meeting. Solicitor Cartee said we have reached an agreement with Miller Brothers for the maintenance of the gravity sewer line and that agreement may also come before the Council in April. He then discussed expanding the CRA district to include the Lane property. He said that legislation may be on hold until the new state statute goes into effect in April.

Ordinance 2023-03:

Ms. Geiger invited Chief Jordan into the meeting. Chief Jordan stated that he had met with Ms. Ratliff and Ms. Geiger last week to discuss the positions in the police department. He said over the last few years, there have been discussions about going to a full-time police department. He said this year there is money in the budget for a part-time position and a full-time position, but all intentions were to go to a full-time department only and eliminate the part-time position. Chief Jordan gave an overview of the way the police department was set up when he first started with the Village thru present day. He said he was a part-time chief, but still worked another full-time job. At that time, he had a few part-time officers as well. He discussed auxiliary officers and said he is not allowed to schedule them. He said by law he can schedule part-time officers; however, their full-time job will always be their priority and he has to schedule them around that job, not what is needed for the Village. He would like this job to be their priority. He said going to a full-time police department will allow them to keep up with the growth plan. Mr. Mitchem said full-time is good, however you can use the part-time officers to fill in where needed. He said an auxiliary officer still needs the experience to possibly become a part-time officer and eventually a full-time officer. He said we need these opportunities. He said someone from another county could offer more money and the full-time leaves, you will need that part-time position to fill in the open slots. Chief Jordan once again stated that he is unable to schedule the auxiliary and part-time officers to "fill in open slots" because they are unavailable due to their full-time jobs. Chief Jordan asked after an officer pays for their training/school, why would they want to go to a part-time position. Ms. Plybon asked if the part-time is dissolved, what happens to the officer in that position. Ms. Geiger said the new full-time position would be offered to the current part-time officer before it was posted. Ms. Geiger asked how many days a month are we getting from the part-time position now? Chief Jordan said it differs, but if he was to average it out, it would probably be three or four days a month. Mayor Goldhardt said the issue is, part-time officers are not able to work on the days and at the times that we need them. They are only available when they are not working on their full-time job, and they choose to come to work for us. He said that aside, our current part-time officer could make a great full-time officer for the Village. He said our situation currently is if we have a part-time officer, their family comes first, their full-time job comes second, then the Village comes last. He said over the past three years, we have been eliminating the part-time positions. Each time we eliminated a part-time position, a full-time position has been offered to that person. He feels there is a place for part-time officers and possibly auxiliary officers down the road, however, we need to build the department up to where it needs to be first. Ultimately, he would like to see three officers per shift. This is helpful when there is training and vacations needing scheduled. Mr. Mitchem said this is where the part-time officers would benefit. He said you can do a mandatory schedule. Mayor Goldhardt reiterated that we are not allowed to schedule auxiliary officers. Mayor Goldhardt gave the scenario of pulling a person from the day shift for training. If he needs someone to cover during the day shift, a part-time employee would not be able to cover it because they have a 40-hour job somewhere else. He said we are not the employee's priority job, and we are forced to work around their other work schedule, which does the Village no good whatsoever. Ms. Ratliff discussed the police report provided each month and how the calls and nature of the calls have gone up since she joined the Council. Ms. Plybon said she does not understand



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an employee dictating their hours. She feels this is administrative. Mr. Crego said he said in fairness, in his career he has made hundreds of employee schedules. He said he would like to see one with eight employees and what the coverage looks like over a months' time, with no overtime. Mayor Goldhardt said he can email a schedule to him. Mr. Crego said any place he has had employees, he leaned on the part-time employees because this is where his flexibility came from. He said he will be a no vote to get rid of a part-time employee, even if we do not fill it. He said just like the groundskeeper, he will not support something that states we will not have part-time positions. He said the mayor made the decision to do away with the auxiliary officers, which was a concern to him. Ms. Ratliff asked if it is cheaper to pay overtime than it is to pay for a part-time position? Mr. Crego said full-time employees have twice the benefit cost. Mr. Mitchem said they will have to bid for their time off. He said if there were 13-15 officers, it would not be an issue. Mayor Goldhardt said if there were three per shift (9 officers), they could allow one employee off per shift. This way we have coverage and do not have to pay any overtime. Chief Jordan discussed the cost of bringing on an officer, regardless of it being a part-time or full-time position. He also discussed the training process of a full-time officer versus a part-time officer. He said overtime is still a possibility for any officer depending on calls, arrests, accidents etc. He said there currently is no scheduled overtime. Mr. Crego said even if you do not intend to fill the position, he thinks we should not eliminate it. Solicitor Cartee said the current legislation eliminates the part-time position and the auxiliary positions and establishes a new full-time position. He said if the Council would like to bring back the possibility of part-time positions, they would have to create new legislation. Ms. Plybon said she is confused how there isn't more control over scheduling officers for the times we need. She is confused how a part-time employee has the power to dictate when they will and will not work. She said it would also be nice to have the officers come meet the Council in the near future, like the utility and street department employees did.

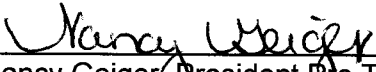
Fireworks Donation Request:

Ms. Geiger said she spoke with John Beard, President of the Commercial Point Community Mens Club. He said they have paid for half of the fireworks and would appreciate any type of donation. The Council discussed the matter and agreed on a donation of \$2500.00 to the Commercial Point Homecoming.

Additional Business:

Mr. Crego asked if we had done anything with the screens around the building to keep the birds out. Ms. Hastings said they did some last year, but not this year. Mr. Crego said something keeps happening to our 35 MPH sign on Welch Road. It is currently missing. He then asked about the 2023 water rate study. Mayor Goldhardt said he has put something together. He said what he is seeing is not good. He said Fiscal Officer Hastings pulled up monthly expenses and after looking at the information, it is not what he expected to see. The report shows that 80% of our customers use less than 5,000 gallons a month. If the Council wishes to redistribute the cost, they must remember that every time they remove a dollar from one person's bill, they will have to add it to someone else's bill. Mr. Crego said last month it was requested to have charts or maps on the wall of the developments. Mr. Crego asked about Bellshazzar and if it would be another year for those repairs. Mayor Goldhardt said the Village Engineer is currently working on that. He then asked for updates on the tree issue. Solicitor Cartee said there is pending legislation that should be passed first. He asked about the John Brennan property and if we are in negotiations with them on anything. Mayor Goldhardt said there are no discussions taking place with the Village concerning that property at this time. Mr. Crego asked about having a special meeting with the school. Mayor Goldhardt informed him that he had met with Superintendent Wolfe, Trey Fausnaugh, Ryan Scribner, and Jenna Wolfe last week and they discussed development within the Village. Ms. Geiger said the presentation given at the school board meeting is online.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Crego and seconded by Ms. Wolfe. All were in favor, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.



Nancy Geiger, President Pro Tempore



Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer