

SEVILLE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

June 17, 2013

Kieran O'Rourke called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Present: David Johnson, Kieran O'Rourke (President), Brian Greer

Kevin Bittaker (Superintendent), Cathy Kilgore (Office Manager)

Absent: None

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the minutes from June 3rd. The motion was seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Greer moved to approve the payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Privilege of the floor:

None

Utility Committee Report:

Councilwoman Barb Schwartz reported that Resolution 2013-04 concerning the Kilowatt Hour tax was taken off the table by a 4-2 vote but was not adopted by Council. The vote to adopt was a 3-3 tie with the Mayor casting the deciding vote not to adopt the Resolution. Mrs. Schwartz further noted that Council had stated its' intent to leave the resolution tabled until the budget discussions for 2014 had been completed. Mr. O'Rourke felt that in his opinion, Council's action represented a breach of trust. Mr. O'Rourke further emphasized that he wanted full disclosure concerning the KW tax and its' intent to the people paying the tax. The amount of the KWH tax is relatively small for some, but for some businesses the yearly amount is in excess of \$10,000. BOPA collects the tax but it is passed on to the Village. Mr. O'Rourke said that the intent was to give all of the tax back to the rate payers. The tax also has an effect on the extended payment plans. Mr. O'Rourke stated that his only goal was to return the tax to the ratepayers or at least supply everyone the reason for the tax. Mr. Johnson stated that there is a \$10.00 per month water surcharge that he felt was unfair because the charge for everyone was the same regardless of the amount of water used. Mr. Bittaker disagreed with Mr. Johnson. The surcharge was for water main improvements approved by BOPA in 1991. The surcharge will come off in 2015. The current Board members have previously indicated that they would not vote for any surcharges in the future. Mr. O'Rourke said that the issue he was raising was not the amount of KWH tax collected, but that full disclosure of the purpose of the tax is provided to everyone. Mr. Greer concurred with Mr. O'Rourke. He added that for some of the larger businesses, the return of the tax could lead to expansion of their businesses. Originally, the Village gave the entire amount collected back to BOPA which returned it to the rate payers. In 2007 Council began keeping the tax in the general fund with the exception of the Bleachtech portion of the tax. Mr. O'Rourke said that this was to be a temporary situation and the Village would return the full amount of the tax after recovering from the difficult financial situation in the Village at the time. It has been reported that the Village is on sound footing again and consideration for returning the KWH tax was going to be part of the 2014 budget discussions.

Mrs. Schwartz added that for 2012, Seville Bronze paid \$11,808, Atlantic Tool and Die paid \$10,102, and Blair Rubber paid \$11,169.

Mrs. Schwartz also pointed out that in 2007, the KWH tax and the quarter percent income tax credit was taken back due to an increase in spending and not for loss of revenue.

Approved minutes show this to be the case.

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Superintendent's Report:

The work on Pleasant Street is complete with the exception of the final grade. This will be completed by the State of Ohio when they finish the repaving work on Route 3. This could save the Village as much as \$8,000.00

The RT 3 bridge is being replaced. The water main on the bridge will be relocated.

G & J will do the approximately 450 feet of boring work on Park Avenue West. This will be less expensive than doing it ourselves.

Bogner Construction is still working on the punch list for the EQ basin.

Office Manager's Report:

Mrs. Kilgore gave the extended payment plans.

Mr. O'Rourke thanked Mrs. Kilgore and the Fiscal Officer for their work on putting the notes together for the Employee Handbook update.

There is a free financial planning course given by American Municipal Power that would deal with some of the topics raised by Chris Deeter at the May 6 BOPA meeting. Mrs. Kilgore can attend the course and Councilwoman Barb Schwartz will also attend. Mr. Johnson moved to send Mrs. Kilgore and Mr. Bittaker to the course. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greer. The motion was passed unanimously.

Unfinished business:

None

New business:

Councilwoman Leslie Miller noted that she had been accepted into the upcoming Leadership Medina Class. She also reported that the paved walkways at Cy Hewit Park were under construction.

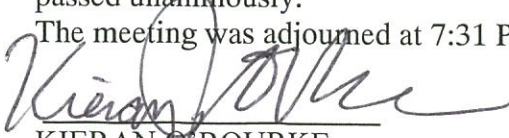
Mr. O'Rourke reported that the City of Medina has raised water rates while BOPA has not had to raise the rates in Seville.

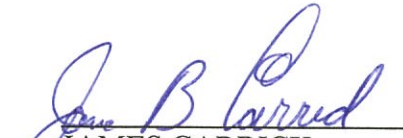
Mr. O'Rourke stressed the importance of the economic impact Bleachtech Inc. has on the Village. He suggested a resolution continuing the current practice of having the Bleachtech portion of the KWH tax being returned to BOPA. The Board recommended that the Solicitor be contacted to determine how such a resolution could be worded.

Mr. O'Rourke gave out a billing fact sheet and asked all of the Board members review the handout and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.

Mr. Greer moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.


KIERAN O'ROURKE
PRESIDENT


JAMES CARRICK
FISCAL OFFICER