

SEVILLE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Minutes

October 7, 2024

Mr. Greer called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

Present: President Brian Greer, Carlene Klinect, Richard Barbera, Superintendent Kevin Bittaker, Office Manager Tiffany Shultz

Mrs. Klinect moved to approve the minutes of the meeting on September 16, 2024. Mr. Greer seconded the motion. The motion passed, with Mr. Barbera abstaining.

Mr. Barbera moved to approve the payment of the bills from October 7, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Klinect. The motion passed.

Privilege of the floor:

Mr. Barbera asked for a moment of silence for peace and prayer for the turmoil in the country.

Utility Committee Report:

None

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Bittaker stated the Electric St. substation will have to be taken out of service for 4-6 weeks while Ohio Edison finishes up their upgrades in the area. The services will feed from Guilford Rd. substation during this time. In the event of a power outage more customers may be affected as a result, but we should be okay.

Mr. Bittaker asked that ordinance 2024-54, for the Blue Creek Wind block of power, be voted down at the council meeting. AMP Ohio is looking to replace the block with something more solid and there will be a new ordinance when that is ready.

Office Manager's Report:

The annual unclaimed funds for the guarantee deposits are underway. We have mailed six (6) notices, and the process should be complete by the end of the month. Mrs. Shultz attended the online seminar for unclaimed funds on September 18 for an annual review.

A few weeks ago, the village had a power outage. Normally the generator at the village hall kicks on within minutes and the phone systems are not lost. In this instance, the generator did not turn on and the phones were down completely for a short period of time. Upon investigation from Mr. Larabee, of Perfect Voice and Data, the battery backup we have is insufficient for the building. Mrs. Shultz received a quote of \$412.45 to upgrade the battery backup to handle 20 minutes of lost power, more than enough time for the generator to turn on. Motion by Mr. Greer to move forward with this upgrade. Seconded by Mrs. Klinect. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Mr. Greer asked for an update on the panic button for the village offices. Fiscal Officer, Mrs. Nemastil, stated that with the purchase of the cameras for the lobby and council chambers, there is no money left in the budget this year for the panic buttons.

New Business:

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The security policies sent over by the village solicitor were briefly discussed. With no objections from the board on the updated policy suggested by our insurance company, Mr. Barbera would like to make the motion to send Board approval to council. Mrs. Klinect seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Greer discussed the passive-aggressive email sent only to Board members and employees by the mayor. The mayor stated the purpose of the email was to ensure some privacy for the fiscal office while training was ongoing and other reasons. However, Mr. Greer found it troubling that no one else was notified and the nature of a threatening email, when all that needed to happen was a simple phone call or email stating the circumstances. The mayor stated she received permission from the village solicitor to send the email due to all the interruptions to the fiscal office and all requests will now go through the mayor. Mr. Barbera stated that the issue is not that the requests go through the mayor, it's the concerning way that it was presented. The mayor stated she would take that under advisement. The question was asked on the number of times a day that BOPA employees are over interrupting the fiscal office. The mayor had nothing to say regarding this. The question was asked why the parks, streets, and police department did not receive the same email about interruptions to the office. The mayor stated that the other departments do not go in and out of there. It was stated that the other departments are over there, and the mayor had no response. Mr. Greer stated that we would have offered to help in any way we could. Instead, this had demeaned, demoralized and insulted the members of the board and its employees. Mr. Greer was crushed on how the mayor decided to handle this and sees this as a very weak move. A resident of the village agreed with Mr. Greer, stating it a very unprofessional look for this town. Mr. Barbera stated that if there was something going on, we need to have communication and dialog with the board. BOPA employees in attendance asked what they had done wrong. The mayor would not comment.

Mrs. Klinect moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barbera. The motion passed unanimously at 7:07 PM.

  
BRIAN GREER  
PRESIDENT

  
CURT GELLES  
FISCAL OFFICER, PROTEM