

**Village of Middlefield Council Minutes**  
**June 11, 2020**

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Council met in regular session via teleconference. Mayor Garlich called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Bill Blue, Mr. Ron Wiech, Ms. Kaitlyn Arganti, Mr. Scott Klein, Mr. Carl Hornung and Mr. Sam Morrow.

**Also present:** Ms. Leslie McCoy-Administrator, Mr. Tom Lee-Solicitor, Lt. Savage, Mr. John Boksansky-Zoning Inspector, Mr. Nick Giardina-Fiscal Officer, Ms. Jess Giardina, Ms. Kim Breyley, Ms. Billie Warren-Recreation Director, Lt. Savage, and Chief Reed.

**Opening Ceremony:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda:** No additions or deletions to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:** May 14, 2020 regular meeting – *Mr. Wiech moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll call: Yeas (6).*

**Payment of Bills:** *Mr. Blue moved to authorize payments totaling \$338,577.58, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll call: Yeas (6). Discussion regarding the insurance payments and the road projects*

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Income Tax and Financials** – Report is included in the packet. Mr. Giardina stated last month was better compared to April. Income tax collection for the year is \$1.36 million, water is at \$338,000 and sewer is at \$383,000. Which comes to a total collection of a little over 2 million. This is comparable to the year before. Expenses are down compared to last year. Mr. Blue asked if there is a list of things that were deferred. Mr. Giardina stated that there is no list but some projects have been put on the back burner. Ms. McCoy stated that the water tower project was pushed to 2021. Mayor Garlich stated that with the market down and the prediction of the second wave of COVID-19 he is concerned about the village's finances. Departments are only spending on what is absolutely necessary. Discussion regarding the income tax collection and the extension of the filing date. Discussion regarding payroll; payroll is up compared to the previous year. This is due to the police department being fully staffed and the raises that were given to the employees in January. All funds are in positive balance through May. Discussion regarding the debt payment and the ones that have been deferred by OWDA.

**AMBULANCE REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. No one is in attendance from CCAN.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT** - Report is included in the packet. Chief Reed gave the statistics for the month of May. The department earned and ISO grade of Class 2. This benefits residents and businesses. The new grade will take effect on September 1, 2020. Property owners are encouraged to contact their insurance carriers to see about any discounts that might be available.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Report is included in the packet. Ms. McCoy stated she has been working with JobsOhio to promote the Bonner Property and to get it certified for onshoring. Chick-fil-a was a great success; they do have a very limited menu. Playgrounds have sanitation stations provided and the recreation department sanitizes the equipment every morning and checks on parks roughly every two hours. Garage sale permits are being issued also at this time with what is required per the

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state. Mayor Garlich stated that he is fine with the food trucks but the community also has to remember the brick and mortar business that are here all the time.

**ZONING REPORT:** Report is included in the packet. Mr. Boksansky stated that he received 12 applications for permits in the month of May. Discussion regarding the Fritingers property and the overgrown grass.

**STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. Lt. Savage stated that Oakdale, Maple and Elmwood have been chip and sealed. The fog coat will be installed next week to seal in all the stones. Valplast has the intermediate the company was working on adjusting and repairs to the castings. The top coat will be installed on next Saturday. The water line at the plant has been moved.

**POLICE REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. Lt. Savage gave the statistics for the month of May. There were 247 call for service. This is about 300 below last year but March, April and May were really slow. Mr. Blue asked if the department is wearing face masks. Lt. Savage gave a brief overview of the department policy regarding wearing masks and the departments concern. Discussion regarding how the department is dealing with the current atmosphere. Lt. Savage stated that the department, yearly, goes through policies and procedures especially on the use of force. Also active in a collaborative group that emphasizes special training in how to handle delicate situations. The whole department is CIC training which deals with mental issues. Ravenwood Mental Health does the training for the department.

**PARKS & RECREATION REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. Ms. Warren stated that she has been notarizing for the police department. Making videos for facebook and posting. Posting on facebook at least twice per day. The department has been sanitizing all of the playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts and pavilions. This includes all parks that the village owns. Started the sports conditioning program and the participation has increased every day. The parks seem to be increasing and using the parks.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-**

Public Hearing July 9, 2020 at 7:30 pm for the 2021 Tax Budget.

Mayor Garlich stated that he spoke with the plant operator and the water levels are looking very good. The new well should be coming online soon. Fireworks are scheduled in September. The commissions have approved the 2020 Great Geauga County Fair. The village will be scheduling a shred day towards the end of August.

**FIRST READING -**

**ORDINANCE 20-117 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE USE OF "CARES ACT" FUNDS RECEIVED FROM GEAUGA COUNTY, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS RELATED THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 20-117 by title only.

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Mr. Lee stated that this is based on the recommendation of the Municipal League. The bill is waiting on the governor's signature. This is for funds and will allow the village to be included and can receive funds immediately from the commissioners once the funds become available.

Mr. Hornung made a motion to waive the required readings and declare Ordinance 20-117 an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Wiech. Roll call: Yeas (6).

Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 20-117, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll call: Yeas (6).

**ORDINANCE 20-118 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORINANCE 20-109, TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH CHAGRIN VALLEY PAVING, INC., TO AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF \$5,500 FOR USE OF THE VALPLAST ROAD MILLINGS TO CREATE A PARKING LOT BY THE BASEBALL FIELDS ON ALMEDA DRIVE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 20-118 by title only.

Ms. Arganti made a motion to waive the required readings and declare Ordinance 20-118 an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll call: Yeas (6).

Mr. Morrow made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 20-118, motion seconded by Mr. Wiech. Roll call: Yeas (6).

**ORDINANCE 20-119 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXISTING SECTION 1171.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENT THAT OWNERS OF PROPERTY WITH STORM WATER MAINTENANCE FACILITIES ARE OBLIGATED TO COMPLETE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS REPORTS OF SAID FACILITIES AND SEND COPIES OF SAME TO THE GSWCD.**

Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 20-119 by title only.

Ms. McCoy stated that the GSWCD came to the village for clarification regarding the inspections. The GSWCD asked that this be included so that the inspections are done yearly. The reports are required to be submitted. Discussion regarding putting a list together and send the property owners the new legislation. The village is not enforcing the requirement. This requirement is by GSWCD.

Mr. Wiech made a motion to place Ordinance 20-119 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Klein. Roll call: Yeas (6).

**ORDINANCE 20-120 AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING CERTAIN MAYORAL ACTIONS TAKEN IN MAY, 2020 AND JUNE, 2020 PURSUANT TO THE EMERGENCY POWERS CONFERRED BY ORDINANCE 20-113, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 20-120 by title only.

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Mr. Lee clarified that the Ordinance 20-113 stays in effect until the governor declares the state of emergency over for the State of Ohio. Mr. Hornung feels this should stay in place for the time being.

Mr. Hornung made a motion to waive the required reading and declare Ordinance 20-120 an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Wiech. Roll call: Yeas (6).

Mr. Morrow made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 20-120, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll call: Yeas (6).

**SECOND READING**

**THIRD READING**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Web Site Report – Kim Breyley:** Reports are in the packet. Ms. Breyley stated that View for May are down approximately 15%. Down 10% as compared to last year. Mobile users are still up compared to last year. Discussion regarding the redesigning of the website. This project is currently on hold due to reduce spending.
2. **Mosquito Spraying – Will start Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup>:** Mayor Garlich stated that the forms have been sent out. Once the forms have been completed and returned. The list is given to Mr. Soltis and he goes out and marks the properties based on what is requested. Door knockers are left to let residents know when spraying is done. The spraying takes place at dusk. Dunks are thrown into ponds to help deter the growth of the mosquitoes.
3. **Scrap tire Day – Will be Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>:** The program will be held 8 am to 12 noon. The container will be behind village hall and can drop off tires that are not on the rims. This is done by a grant from Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District.
4. **Eagle Park – Splash Park:** Would need to have an employee at the park full time to sanitize and make sure that social distancing requirements are is kept as required by the state.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS**

**Streets, Sidewalks, & Utilities (Mayor Garlich/Mr. Morrow/Mr. Wiech)** – No Meeting in May.

**Economic Development Committee (Mayor Garlich, Mr. Blue, Mr. Klein, Mr. McDowell, Mr. Dietrich, Mr. Schill, Ms. Breyley)** – No Meeting in May.

**Planning & Zoning (Mayor Garlich/Mr. Klein/Mr. Linberg/Mr. Dietrich/Mr. Szymanski)** – Minutes from May meeting are included. Ms. McCoy stated that the

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Rotary Club donated free bike racks to the downtown businesses and they are currently being installed.

**Parks & Recreation (Mr. Wiech/Mayor Garlich/Ms. Arganti) – No meeting in May.**

**Finance & Ordinance (Ms. Arganti/Mr. Blue/Mr. Klein) – No Meeting in May.**

**Public Safety (Mr. Morrow/Mr. Hornung/Mr. Blue) – No Meeting in May.**

**VILLAGE CALENDAR:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There being no further business before Council, the regular session adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**FISCAL OFFICER**

DRAFT