

**Village of Hamersville
Regular Council Meeting
February 7, 1994 - 7:00 P.M.**

Present: William Dean Jr., Martha Hanes, James Johnston, Jesse Nester, Duane Neu, Wyndal Staggs, Mayor Bowyer and Clerk-Treasurer Craig

Also Present: Chief of Police James Canter, Officer Betty Kirkpatrick, Darwin Emmrett, Eunice Ott Brown County Press, BPA President Mack Hanes, and Lynn Dunn, Village Electrician

Mayor Steve Bowyer called the meeting to order and asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting on January 3, 1994 and/or special meeting on January 17, 1994.

Johnston moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 3, 1994. Nester seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Nester, Hanes, Staggs, Neu, Dean. **NAY:** None **MOTION CARRIED**

Hanes moved to accept the minutes of the special meeting on January 17, 1994. Neu seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Hanes, Neu, Nester, Johnston, Staggs, Dean. **NAY:** None **MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion was held on Paul Marks. Mr. Johnston informed Council that Paul Marks was no longer qualified to remove snow for the Village as he does not have commercial insurance. Johnson moved, Staggs seconded the motion to dismiss Paul Marks, Contractor for snow removal for the Village. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Staggs, Dean, Hanes, Nester, Neu. **NAY:** None **MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion followed regarding village insurance, worker's compensation, etc. Mayor Bowyer will check with Mr. Rayles, our representative with Ohio Insurance Entities Pool of Ohio to see what options the Village does have for covering individuals such as contractors for snow removal, etc.

Mayor Bowyer introduce Darwin Emmrett. He explained that Mr. Emmrett has met with Police Chief Canter and the police committee. Mayor Bowyer continued that Mr. Emmrett understands that if he is hired by Council as an officer, he would have to stay at least one year to offset cost of his uniform plus he needs to provide his own hardware.

Discussion was held on the availability of Mr. Emmrett. He currently works for Bigg's security during the evenings and weekends. This is a conflict with the times the Village needs an officer. Discussion followed. Johnston made a motion instructing the Clerk-Treasurer to write a letter to Mr. Emmrett explaining that the Village is contemplating hiring him as a part-time police officer up to 30 hours per month, providing he is available the hours the Village needs. Neu seconded the motion. **VOTING:** YEA: Johnston, Neu, Dean, Hanes, Nester, Staggs. NAY: None
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Emmrett will then take letter to his supervisor to see if his schedule can be altered so he can be available for the Village during evenings between 6:00 - 10:00 P.M. and weekends between 8:00 P.M. - 4:00 A.M. Mr. Emmrett thanked the Council for their time and then left the meeting.

Mayor Bowyer reminded Council that assistance is needed to install garage doors at the Police Building.

Discussion was held on the procedure of the handling of the water bonds. Council's guidance from solicitor was to put money in a Long Term Debt fund. Also, per verbal conversation between Solicitor and Auditor of State Ferguson's office, Council could pay off the street bonds. It appears now this procedure may have been incorrect. Solicitor Leicht said Village Council may have to go before Judge Stapleton and request a transfer of funds from the Long Term Debt Fund into the General fund. Council will wait until State Examiner's post audit report before making a decision to transfer the money.

Mayor Bowyer informed Council that the Insurance Company had made reimbursement for the August break-in of the Village office. Also, Roger Adkins said Council could replace rear entry door or make improvements that would hinder any forced entry again. Mayor Bowyer will again check into costs of criminal insurance.

Again purchase of a security system or a motion detector for the Village Office was tabled.

Mayor Bowyer informed Council that per H.B. 111 all committee meetings need to be posted and open to public. Committees can still meet and report to Council.

Mayor Bowyer asked BPA President if he had anything to bring before Council.

BPA President Hanes explained to Council that the Village of Bethel has a utility bucket truck to sell as is, where is, totally warrantless. The BPA would like to purchase this truck from Bethel. Lynn Dunn told Council there was not a thing wrong with the truck. Our own Bucket Truck is getting age on it, controls are starting to wear etc. Lynn continued that it is time to move to better equipment.

President Hanes added that Bethel would like to see us purchase the truck in case Bethel would ever need to use it.

Solicitor Leicht questioned whether or not our insurance would cover usage by anyone than our own employees. Solicitor also said that it was not necessary to bid between municipalities.

Councilman Staggs expressed concerned where the money would come from since the BPA had requested 10 percent electric rate increase in June 1994 just to make ends meet. Councilman Staggs continued that BPA can not continue raising rates.

Councilman Nester added that it was not necessary to make a large purchase since Village only has 250 users.

President Hanes said an individual was interested in buying BPA's old truck. Solicitor Leicht said BPA would need to advertise sale of truck.

Councilman Neu said CG&E is currently surveying lines, etc., and will be getting back to the Village on a purchase price shortly.

Solicitor Leicht suggested perhaps hiring a professional consulting firm to have a study made on electric department. The firm would be able to tell BPA whether or not it would be feasible to keep and maintain system or if Village would be better off to sell. Also the firm would be able to advise BPA if CG&E's offer was fair and reasonable. Solicitor Leicht will get the name of this consulting firm.

Councilman Johnston suggested tabling the purchase of truck from Bethel until CG&E made an offer; and that getting a study by a consulting firm was a good idea.

BPA President Hanes said Bethel would wait on Hamersville until their March meeting.

Council was in agreement to table purchase of truck until their March 7th meeting.

Mayor Bowyer read Charles Bunton's letter of resignation. Johnston moved, Nester seconded the motion to accept Bunton's resignation. **VOTING: YEA: Johnston, Nester, Dean, Hanes, Neu, Staggs. NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

Street Committee is in the process of receiving applications for Street Commissioner to replace Mr. Bunton. Mrs. Ott will put notice in Brown County Press that Village is accepting applications. Councilman Staggs said perhaps by the next regular meeting a recommendation could be made.

Councilman Nester brought to Council's attention his concern for safety due to the way the used cars are parked near S.R. 774. Mr. Nester feels that Mr. Crosswaite is parking his used vehicles in the state's right of way on S.R. 774. If this should cause an accident, who is responsible? Village, State or Mr. Crosswaite.

Mr. Johnston told Council that comments had been made to him that were no "Reduced Speed Ahead" signs when 35 M.P.H. reduces to 25 M.P.H.

Mayor Bowyer replied that the State of Ohio installed the 25 M.P.h. signs and they were aware that no "Reduce Speed Ahead" were placed due to space requirement. They ODOT felt that they were visable to the general public.

Solicitor Leicht added that there is nothing in code that necessitates pre warning. Also that 25 M.P.H. is statutory for a Business District.

Johnston moved to recess. Staggs seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Staggs, Dean, Hanes, Nester, Neu. **NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

Johnston moved to reconvene, Hanes seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Hanes, Dean, Nester, Neu, Staggs. **NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

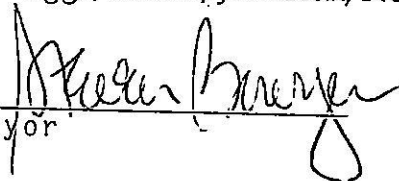
Dean made a motion to hire Darwin Emmrett at \$4.65 per hour on a six month probationary basis, contingent upon whether or not Bigg's will alter his schedule to meet Village needs. Johnston seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Dean, Johnston, Hanes, Nester, Neu, Staggs. **NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

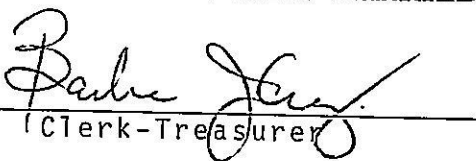
Johnston moved to pay bills as presented. Staggs seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Staggs, Dean, Hanes, Nester, Neu. **NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

Johnston moved to increase all police officers hourly rate by \$.25 effective February 1, 1994. Neu seconded the motion. **VOTING: YEA:** Johnston, Neu, Dean, Hanes, Nester, Staggs. **NAY: None MOTION CARRIED.**

Council understood that this would only be a \$10.00 per month increase for Police Chief Canter, who's current salary is based on only 40 hours per month. Council was in agreement that any hours Police Chief Canter worked over 40 he would be compensated.

Dean moved, Staggs seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. **VOTING: YEA:** Dean, Staggs, Hanes, Johnston, Nester, Neu. **NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.**


Mayor


Clerk-Treasurer