

COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 26, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm, followed by the pledge.

Attendance: Terry Seibert, Seth Seibert, Bruce Rickard, Brian Webb, Amanda Crouch, Chelsea Wilsey, Kristina Boroff, Pete Van Arsdel
Cody Coffman, Jan Grieshop, Veryl and Marylin Sheets, Matt and Lisa Dorsten, Lanny Hammitt, Rick Emans, Marge Trisel, Bill and Jackie Cox, Jim Godwin, Denny Dorsten, Lori Huffman, Mike Frank – The Daily Standard

Mayor:

Solicitor:

Minutes: There was a motion by Seth to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Amanda, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

There was a motion by Brian Webb with a second by Seth to approve the minutes, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

Street Commissioner: Nothing to report.

Zoning: Nothing to report.

New Business:

Council reviewed the 2024 mowing quote from CJ's Lawncare. There is a \$50 per mowing increase over 2023 for a total of \$345 per mowing. There was a motion by Bruce with a second by Seth to approve the 2024 mowing contract with CJ's Lawncare, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

The BPA is hiring a part time, very limited hours, general maintenance/cemetery employee. This employee will be mowing the cemetery as well as doing utility work. The position will pay \$15 per hour. The job will be posted in the Mendon post office.

Old Business:

The designs were reviewed for the Welcome to Mendon sign planned by the Mendon Union Alumni Committee. The sign will be placed near the water tower. Council is fine with the Alumni committee proceeding with the sign.

Reminder that spring clean up is set for May 18 and brush collection will be May 17.

Polling location updates: April 2 is the next Board of Elections meeting.

Recycling: The mayor contacted waste management. They would like the mayor and a couple council members to meet with them and discuss the process of setting up recycling in the village. The mayor will get the meeting date together and let the interested council members know.

Legislation:

Council had the second reading of Ordinance 2024-01 for cannabis dispensary regulations within the village.

ORDINANCE 2024-01

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT RECREATIONAL ADULT USE CANNABIS OPERATORS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF MENDON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2023, voters in Ohio approved State Issue 2, which enacted Chapter 3780 of the Ohio Revised Code, which became effective December 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3780 authorizes and regulates recreational adult use cannabis in the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, R.C. 3780.25 authorizes municipal corporations to prohibit or limit the number of adult use cannabis operators (as defined in R.C. 3780.01) within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, Medical marijuana is regulated in Ohio by Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Revised Code, and is not addressed within this legislation by Mendon Village Council; and

WHEREAS, the Mendon Village Council finds it to be in the best interest of the Village of Mendon to prohibit recreational adult use cannabis operators licensed under Chapter 3780 within the village limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Mendon, County of Mercer, State of Ohio.

SECTION ONE

THAT, all terms used in this Ordinance shall be defined in the same manner as R.C. Chapter 3780 as it pertains to adult use cannabis. All terms in this Ordinance but not defined in that chapter shall be constructed, for purposes of this Ordinance, in a manner to be consistent with the use of such terms in that chapter.

SECTION TWO

THAT, adult use cannabis operators are hereby prohibited from operating within the limits of the Village of Mendon, Ohio.

SECTION THREE

THAT, it is in the intent of the Mendon Village Council to prohibit the operations described in Section Two above to the maximum extent permitted by R.C. 3780.25 and any other applicable provisions of state law. This Ordinance shall be constructed in a manner that it gives maximum effect to that intent.

SECTION FOUR

THAT, this Ordinance shall be declared an emergency measure for the preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Village of Mendon, Ohio, and therefore, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor at the earliest period allowed by law.

First Reading 2-27-2024

Second Reading 3-26-2024

Third Reading _____

Guests:

Jim Godwin spoke about how he had helped facilitate the building of the Mendon Fire Department. The council at that time came to Jim and asked for his help in building a new fire department. Jim plans to tear down the building next to the carryout and tear down the old fire department. He also plans to tear down the Old Farm Store. He doesn't think the town deserves it. He is done investing in the village. The mayor replied to Jim that he is sorry that he feels that way and that he has always appreciated what Jim has done for the village. He is hoping that Jim has a change of heart because that would leave a big hole in Mendon. He had planned to donate the Old Farm Store and the old fire department to the village, but he will not be doing that. Terry thanked him for the things that he has done for the village.

Denny Dorsten asked about the letter he received in the mail. He said it is not his job to clean up the village. Mr. Dorsten stated that it is the mayor and the solicitor's job to take them to court. Mr. Dorsten said that they want council to sign the papers. Pete stated that the Clerk has the forms ready to sign. Terry stated that he would sign the forms if that makes them feel better. We are at the third step in our

procedure, we are ready to submit the complaints to Celina Municipal Court. There was a lengthy discussion about the next step.

There was some discussion about the role of the sheriff's office in the village and the increase of the contract that they proposed.

Terry spoke about the decline of the village and his hopes for it to change in the future. Terry said he is very grateful for the younger people stepping up to be on council.

Matt Dorsten asked why council is so opposed to hiring a full-time zoning inspector. The mayor said that he saw what it did in the township, it ran them out of money very quickly. Matt asked what the position would pay if we hired someone to do the full-time job of enforcing the zoning code.

There was some discussion about the portion of the zoning code we are enforcing and what we are not.

Jim Godwin has a lot of the Mendon Union School trophies and plaques and things. He would like them to be stored somewhere once he starts his downsizing plans.

The mayor stated that he would love for the village to have the money to have full time law enforcement. He would feel a lot safer.

There was some discussion about an income tax and if the village would benefit from it.

Lori Huffman asked about the hole in front of her house where they replaced the water line. She wanted to know if they would be filling that in. The mayor said that when the ground settles they will fill it in. Lori thanked Jim Godwin for everything he has done in the village.

There was some discussion about the drones checking for the capped natural gas wells. Marge spoke about the wells and wonders who is able to cap them.

There was a motion by Seth with a second by Brian Webb to approve the checks and purchase orders, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

There was a motion by Chelsea with a second by Seth to approve the financial statements, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

There was a motion by Amanda with a second by Seth, to approve the mileage, roll call: Amanda – yea, Chelsea – yea, Seth – yea, Brian Webb – yea, Bruce – yea.

There was some further discussion about Ordinance 2024-01 concerning the cannabis dispensary regulation and the implications for our village. There was some discussion about the crime rate in areas with dispensaries.

There was a motion by Seth with a second by Amanda to adjourn.

Terry Seibert – Mayor

Seth Seibert – President

Kristina Boroff – Fiscal Officer