

CITY OF PEWEE VALLEY
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
February 4, 2013

The regular meeting of the City Council of Pewee Valley, Kentucky was held on Monday, February 4, 2013. In attendance were Mayor Bob Rogers, Council Members Henry Walser, Rex Florence, Will Chambers, Bethany Major, Dick Filippini, and Norman Schippert. Also in attendance were John Singler, City Attorney and Laura Eichenberger, City Clerk.

Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion was made by Henry Walser to approve the January 7, 2012 Minutes of the City Council Meeting as written. Bethany Major seconded the motion and all Council Members voted in favor.

Financial Report

The Profit Loss Year-to-Date Actual report and Balance Sheet through January 2013 from the City Treasurer were distributed to Council Members.

Open Comments

John Bishop, 317 LaGrange Road, thanked Mayor Rogers and city staff for all the road cleaning through the snow and ice storms.

James Allison, 103 Castlewood Drive, clarified the property discussed in the January 7, 2013 Minutes regarding the addition of driveways exiting to Rest Cottage and Houston Lane is a proposed division of Lot 3, Castlewood Subdivision, to allow the building of two houses with new driveways. The property has not been divided at this time. The City Engineer met with Mr. Allison and Mr. Thompson regarding the issue.

Police Report

Deputy Michael L. Meece, Oldham County Sheriff's Office

Statistics show crashes involving vehicles, motorcycles, bicyclists and pedestrians has reached epidemic proportions in the Metro area. Crashes and injuries blamed on cell phone use to include texting rose last year to their highest level in ten years. Distracted driving accidents to include fatalities rose to more than fourteen thousand, a sixty five percent increase from 2002. A Louisville area attorney was quoted as saying that he is working twice as many cases that stem from cell phone usage than just eighteen months ago. Nationally, the number of monthly text messages nationally jumped from 931 million in 2002 to 2.3 trillion in 2011. Distracted and careless driving costs millions of dollars in property damage and medical care, just in Oldham and Jefferson County alone.

But the real cost are the effects on lives. Motorists must obey simple traffic laws, such as stopping at stop signs, using turn signals to turn and change lanes, obeying the speed limits on the interstate as well as residential streets to include school zones, stopping at railroad crossings, yielding to pedestrians and waiting until they reach their destination, or by pulling over to text or place calls on cellular devices. 737 people were killed last year with thousands more injured on Kentucky roadways.

Residents are encouraged to practice safe driving habits and report erratic drivers to dispatch at 222-0111 or 911, and take advantage of the free house watch program offered by the City and County.

As a reminder, school is back in session, so be vigilant for children waiting for buses, crossing roadways, and school zones. Please obey the speed limits. Radar enforcement is underway throughout the city. Safety is everyone's responsibility!

Chief Greg Larimore, Pewee Valley Police Department

Chief Larimore has met with St. Aloysius School staff and has reviewed and made changes to the current emergency plan for the school. The staff were very receptive to updating the emergency plan and working with Chief Larimore.

This month Chief Larimore worked with Operation Life Saver, a federal funded program that teaches railroad safety. The primary target is the before and after school traffic. We continue to have issues with drivers stopping on the tracks, getting caught between the gates.

Texting and driving is still a huge issue. Around 35 cars have been stopped in last month for distracted driving—putting on make-up, reading, texting while driving. A recent crash was caused by the driver not allowing enough time for the windshield to defog. Make sure you allow enough time for your vehicle to warm up and clear your windows.

Chief Larimore was able to obtain through the Kentucky Department of Transportation and MPH (a Kentucky equipment company) two radar units. Both entities donated the units to the City replacing the 20-30 year old equipment. The donations value approximately \$2,200.

Oldham County switched from the One Call Emergency Alert System to Code Red. Some residents reported they did not receive a phone call for the storms we recently had. Please be sure you are signed-up with the new system. We have provided a link on the City website (www.peweevalleyky.org) to sign-up for the Code Red Alert System. Code Red is an early warning emergency alert system that calls the phone number(s) you provide when signing-up. You can select the level of alert notification (tornado, severe thunderstorm, flash flood, boil water advisory, etc.). Anyone needing assistance signing up or without internet access can call Chief Larimore or the City Clerk.

This afternoon, Anchorage Police Department notified us of burglaries taking place by persons identifying themselves as L. G. & E. or Kentucky Utilities workers. They are entering the house to “check the pilot light” or other activity. While one person is distracting the resident, the other is stealing items from the home. Any legitimate utilities worker will have official identification. If you have any doubt about who is asking to enter your home, call Oldham County Dispatch, 222-0111 immediately.

Announcements

- Mayor Rogers noted the City of Crestwood is looking to extend the quiet zone from Pewee Valley through Crestwood. There will be a meeting in March with Tom Drake with the Federal Railroad Administration, William Marshall, Crestwood City Engineer, and Mayor Diebel to assist with the process.
- Congratulations to Paula Kennedy for doing a great job last month on the *Call of the Pewee*. Abigail Rains with the Kentucky Division of Water sent it out throughout the state noting the great job we’re doing with the educational stormwater articles.
- The Oldham County Environmental Authority will be doing some work on the sewers on Ash Avenue outside the City limits. They will be doing some sleeving and fixing pipes. There will be a little more truck traffic than normal.
- Thank you to Glenn Rowland for all the work he is doing on the roads. He goes out 4 or 5 A.M. checking and clearing the roads of ice, snow, and tree limbs. He’s doing a great job.
- Thank you to David Russell for doing some consultation work for the City.

Pewee Valley Fire District Report—Bob Rogers

Mayor Rogers will give a report each month to keep everyone updated. If you are interested in seeing how the Pewee Valley Fire District works, the Board meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, February 18th, 7:00 p.m., at the Fire Station, 8607 Foley Avenue, in Pewee Valley.

The Board is working on the new fire house in Shelby County. The architectural firm has been chosen. The reason the fire house will be built in Shelby County is about 40% of their revenue comes from Shelby County. The fire district extends to include Persimmon Ridge.

The Board has developed an ethics policy, and put together a records retention policy.

Council Member Reports

Tree Board—Dick Filippini—Nothing to report.

Water Quality/Insurance—Rex Florence

The Annual Stormwater Report is due April 15th. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 6th with Stantec to begin preparing the report.

Public Safety/Communication/Website—Henry Walser—Nothing to report.

Roads and Drainage—Bob Rogers

The City Engineer has met with L. G. & E. about removing the pole in the middle of the entrance at Wooldridge and Highway 146.

The sand filter behind Town Hall has been removed and the area seeded and strawed. Norton has to put in a new septic system holding tank. There will be room for one car to park behind Norton's.

Mayor Rogers will meet with someone from the State this week about a grant for the Town Square pervious paver plans.

Town Hall/Festivities/Central Park—Bethany Major

Bethany is working with Paula Kennedy exploring the pavers project behind Town Hall and the mural.

The Historical Society will meet February 12th at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. The committee will look at adding photos to the display in the Town Hall bay.

There will be another Movie Night in the Park in the spring (probably after Derby).

The 2013 Summer Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd and we have the Monarchs booked for the Picnic.

Old Business

2nd Reading, Ordinance 1, Series 2013—FY 2012/2013 Budget Amendment—John Singler

This is required to move the \$219,000 received from the State for crossing gates from the General Fund to the Crossing Gates budget. Under "Revenue, Grants," the amount is increased from \$30,000 to \$249,000. Under "Expenditures, Crossing Gates," the amount is increased to \$227,100 and "Estimated Reserves Year End" decreased from \$490,640 to \$482,540.

Norman Schippert motioned to adopt Ordinance 1, Series 2012, An Ordinance Amending the Budget for the City of Pewee Valley for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2012 and Ending June 30, 2013. The motion was seconded by Henry Walser.

A roll call vote was taken:

Dick Filippini, aye
Bethany Major, aye

Norman Schippert, aye
Will Chambers, aye

Rex Florence, aye
Henry Walser, aye

Ordinance Addressing Abandoned Properties—John Singler

The City's current nuisance ordinance applies to abandoned properties; but, it does not contain anything dealing with keeping utilities on. Currently, the City liens properties for grass cutting maintenance. When an owner abandons a property, the first thing they do is cut the utilities. One recent example is the electric was turned off, but the water was left on. The pipes froze and burst. The sump pump doesn't come on without electric and now the house is flooded and full of mold. It is extremely difficult to get the companies holding the mortgage to do anything with abandoned properties. It is a problem all over the country. Several other cities have adopted this more modern and stringent nuisance ordinance.

John suggests the Council compare the new ordinance with the current one resume discussion at the March 4, 2013 meeting. Laura Eichenberger will e-mail a copy of the current nuisance ordinance to the Council.

Quiet Zone

Dick Filippini asked the status of the establishing the quiet zone through the Central Avenue and Muirs Lane crossings. Mayor Rogers responded that until the crossing gates are installed at the Wooldridge crossing the quiet zone cannot be established. A construction agreement with CSX for Wooldridge is in process.

New Business

Pewee Valley Representative, Oldham County Planning & Development

A motion was made by Henry Walser, seconded by Dick Filippini to reappoint Joe McWilliams as Pewee Valley Representative to the Oldham County Planning & Development Commission. All Council members voted in favor.

Dollars for Scholars—Bethany Major

The Council needs to decide if the City will participate in the Dollars for Scholars program this year.

Rex Florence stated he does not think the Council should spend tax payer money for that service. Dick Filippini stated he sees the Dollars for Scholars program as an investment in this community. As long as the applicant is means tested and a resident in the City it is worthwhile. Norman Schippert stated it is very important to invest in education; but, we already support it in state and federal taxes. Will Chambers stated he has been a

beneficiary of things like this. He would like to wait until we have someone who really does have the need.

The Council asked John Singler what is involved in setting a scholarship system through the City. A written policy outlining standards, timelines, award administration, etc. would have to be established.

A motion was made by Rex Florence to not participate in the 2013 Dollars for Scholars program. The motion was seconded by Norman Schippert. The Council voted in favor.

Sign Permit Applications

St. Aloysius submitted two sign permit applications: Fish Fry, February 13, 2013 and Picnic, June 8, 2013.

A motion to approve both sign permit requests as long as they meet the sign requirements was made by Henry Walser and seconded by Norman Schippert. All Council Members voted in favor.

A motion was made by Norman Schippert to pay the bills, seconded by Henry Walser. All Council Members present voted in favor.

Henry Walser motioned to adjourn the February 4, 2012 Meeting of the City Council, seconded by Norman Schippert, with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Date

Bob Rogers, Mayor

Laura Eichenberger, City Clerk