



The Village of Walnut Creek Council met in Regular Session, September 27th, 2017, at 7:30pm, 103 Village Drive.

PRESENT:

Mayor Pro- Tem Greg Ricker  
Councilman Pete Benton  
Councilman Mike Daly

Councilwoman Cyndi Dupuy  
Chief Robert Parchman  
Attorney Phil Baddour  
Administrator Sharon Geelen

Absent: Mayor Danny Jackson

Also in attendance:

Steve Lamb  
Michael Vine  
Mike Benton  
Jerry & Carol Ray  
Jeanne Noble

Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Ricker called the meeting to order and Andrew Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker provided the opening prayer.

Peggy Page was sworn in as Clerk by acting Clerk Sharon Geelen.

Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Ricker asked the August 23, 2017 minutes be corrected to read: Mayor Danny Jackson introduced Peggy Page as the new employee as she had not yet been sworn in as Clerk as of the August 2017 meeting. Councilman Pete Benton moved the minutes and financials be approved with the corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

**Duke Energy Progress:** Millie Chalk in Government Relation Management for Duke Energy Progress discussed the renewal of the Franchise Agreement currently in place till March 2018 between Duke Energy Progress and the Village of Walnut Creek. Duke Energy Progress wants to renew said agreement for 60 years. Ms. Chalk discussed the agreement with Council Attorney Phil Baddour. Questions were asked regarding the term of 60 years by Councilman Daly and Councilwoman Dupuy. Ms. Chalk advised over 300 governments had already renewed for 60 years. One of the questions was what was the advantage of a 60 year agreement? Ms. Chalk noted the document provides Duke Progress Energy with the right to serve, helps prevent duplicate of facilities,

provides storm representation and preventative maintenance to the Village. It was the consensus of the council to have Council Attorney Baddour read over the document, discuss with Duke Progress Energy's attorney and present his finding to the Council and action would be taken at the October 2017 Council Meeting.

**Division of Jerry Ray Property:** Mr. Ray along with Mike Benton came before the council regarding the establishment of a sub-division of Mr. Ray's. No Restrictive Covenants have been filed yet for the property on Wood Duck Point. Council Attorney Baddour suggested the Plat be first, and then covenants filed. Mr. Ray stated the covenants would be the same as the current covenants on his properties that have been sold. The parcel in question would face Wood Duck Point. Council Attorney is satisfied. Councilman Benton moved to approve pending subdivision with the understanding Mr. Ray will file the same restrictive covenants that exists for his other properties in that area. Motion passed unanimously. Impact Fee was mentioned and Mr. Ray understood there would be an Impact Fee for this property.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Michael Vine who resides at 210 Tramway Place was having issues with the billing on Suddenlink Cable. He reported all issues had been resolved with no complaints and he appreciated Councilman Benton's assistance with Suddenlink.

**Councilmember Comments:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker had comments regarding the Lake and water levels. There is an element of risk involved with living near or on water. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker talked about emergency procedures that were taken five days ahead on the impending Hurricane Irma. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker felt the council had been very proactive in their approach to the storm and the council would continue to be proactive in their approach to any impending storms or weather events. Councilman Daly mentioned comments that were made about lowering the entire lake for Hurricane season. That approach would not be in the best interest of the residents and would not guarantee no flooding would occur in the event of a storm. Administrator Geelen mentioned the issues that could occur with the dam in the event the lake was lowered more than a foot. Administrator Geelen also feels that the council has been very proactive in their approach regarding the lake and the possibility of flooding. Terracon is doing a study regarding possible emergency actions that could be taken and what the pros and cons would be to the dam and spillway.

**Administrator Report:**

Administrator Geelen gave an update on Hurricane Matthew and the Spillway. To date the Council has spent \$185,354.49 on repairs and has been reimbursed \$184,556.70 by FEMA. At this point the Village's expense is \$797.79. FEMA has frozen all funds, however because the Spillway project was already submitted and approved by FEMA the money will be available to the Village to complete the necessary repairs. The Village will submit bills for work that has been completed for reimbursement as work is completed. Terracon is currently still working on their surveys for the project and they should have the surveys completed soon. The project is still on schedule to be completed in the spring of 2018.

Administrator Geelen brought a request from UPS to house a trailer on a daily basis in the parking lot of the Village offices for Christmas deliveries. Discussion was held and the consensus to OK this request, contingent on the delivery vehicles being marked by UPS.

**Police Chief Report:**

Chief Parchman gave his report. The Chief gave statistics on speeding warnings and violations issued for the month. The Chief has implemented double checks on property when owners are out of town. Homes are to be checked in the morning and in the evening, daily, while owners are out of town. Mayor Pro-tem Ricker asked Chief Parchman about the large drug bust that occurred last week in Mount Olive and the effects it would have locally. Chief responded that it was large enough to make a difference. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker said he has had many positive comments on the good job being done by the police force.

**Committee Reports:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker- Water & Sewer, Lake Committee, and Audit: No comments except for questions about where we stand with last year's audit. The clerk talked with Michael Jordan the CPA last week and was told the audit is almost completed. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker was hoping it could be presented at the October 2017 council meeting. He would like for a copy to be sent to him and to Councilman Benton. Lake Committee meeting being held next month to review Rules for the Lake for 2018 and the Fishing report.

**Councilwoman Cyndi Dupuy- Village Owned Property:**

Councilwoman Dupuy mentioned the office being struck by lightning and the ground faults needing to be replaced and some of the ballasts for the lights. Repairs were under \$600. Councilwoman Dupuy also advised nuisance limbs were being trimmed on Village Owned Properties.

**Councilman Daly-Police, Planning Board, Insurance:**

No Report

**Councilman Benton-Cable TV, Trash & Recycling:**

Councilman Benton is working on the annual surveys for Cable TV. The surveys should be finished within the next week. Also mentioned the sub-contractors were doing a better job cleaning up behind their work.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

**Announcements & Correspondence:**

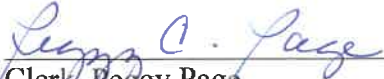
None


**Closed Session:**

There was a closed session regarding personnel matters.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned.

  
Clerk, Peggy Page

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Ricker