

PLEASANT HILL VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

May 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2005

MINUTES

Mayor Gary Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Roll Call: Melinda Clark, Georgiana Weaver, Becky Phillis, Brenda Stephens, Judy Barga, Paul Didier all present. The following guests were present Robert Gurklies, Stan Fessler, Francis Uhrig, Gerald Coate, Antonio and Tammy Midland, Nate Oburn, Terry and Dustin Stephens, Steve and Bonny Gibson and Steve Baker from Channel 7. Others present were Tony Fessler Fiscal Officer and Gary Johnston Mayor.

The Mayor began by providing a 2 year estimate of the General Fund and some of the major capital improvements that need to be done in the next few years. He than expressed that since the 3 mill police levy failed last fall and the 4 mill police levy failed this month that Village Council needs to look at the finances and possibly consider going to one patrolman and put a 2 mill police levy on this fall to cover the expenses for additional patrolmen.

Citizens Comments:

Robert Gurklies suggested looking for a retired patrolman that may be interested in working some hours and that might keep the expenses down.

Tammy Midland thought maybe the part-time patrolmen could cut their hours, the Village could look for donations for flower boxes and possibly have citizens volunteer to mow the park, library and Fire House which might save some money for the Village.

Steve Gibson said he has noticed that the Police Department hasn't been patrolling much and therefore its hard to bring in any money for the Village if they aren't patrolling when they are on duty.

Business:

Melinda would like Council to identify what they want to spend on streets and look for cost reductions that would help towards that goal. The Mayor agreed to set goals but he did not believe the recent elections implied that the Village was to cut other departments or activities. The elections were strictly in reference to the Police Department. He did agree that we should always be looking for cost reductions but not reduce the other Village services.

Brenda and Melinda both suggested that maybe we should go to one part time officer with 20 to 30 hours which will vary from week to week. Brenda would like to look at some cost reductions at future meetings and than make the changes beginning next year.

Judy stated that she agrees with most citizens that they do not want to pay more taxes. She also believes like Steve Gibson that the current force is not visible enough. Judy did not agree with cutting funds to other community activities like summer recreational programs and Village wide activities like Halloween and Christmas. The cuts that need to be made now are to the Police Department. She did support having one patrolman with variable hours.

Georgianna believed some of the older citizens did want the police to continue because of the fear of no protection but, the individuals paying the Village Earnings Tax were taxed out. She did want an older (possibly retired) policeman who would gradually live in the Village with flexible hours and be willing to enforce the Ordinances.

Becky stated that even if we go to one patrolman they would not be as visible as people want because of all the paperwork and court appearances.

The Mayor stated that going to one patrolman with flexible hours could result in the resignation of our current Chief Larry Snead, because he has a current full time job with benefits that would not allow him to be in the Village at varied times.

Paul asked about an auxiliary force but, the rest of the Council was not receptive to that idea because of past experience.

Brenda moved to reduce the Police Department to one patrolman working 30 hours a week with flexible hours and preferably living in Pleasant Hill within 6 months after hire, seconded by Melinda. Roll Call: Brenda, Melinda, Georgianna, Becky, Judy and Paul all yes. Motion carried.

Judy moved to make the aforementioned motion effective 30 days from this meeting, which would be June 18th, 2005, seconded by Melinda. Roll Call: Judy, Melinda, Georgianna, Becky, Brenda and Paul all yes. Motion Carried.

Judy moved to adjourn, seconded by Brenda. Roll Call: Judy, Brenda, Paul, Becky, Georgianna and Melinda all yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

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Mayor/ Gary Johnston

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Fiscal Officer/ Tony Fessler