

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
October 5, 2021**

Mayor Bailey opened the October 5, 2021, Council meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Present at the scheduled meeting of Council were Rahe, Angel, Madaras, Mazur, and Meyer. Others present were, Sargent Kwapich, Gene Steel, Eric Campbell, Vicki Knott, Doug and Pam Zellner, John Vaughn, Allan and Marcy McDonnell, Zach Zientek, and the Fiscal Officer.

**Minutes:** Madaras moved, and Angel seconded to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2021, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Madaras moved, and Angel seconded to approve the bills for \$3,752.59. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 766: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR A 2021-2022 GRANT WITH THE WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT. 3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

Mazur reported the Village can submit up to 3 grant applications. The three items submitting for are the splash pad, updating the lifeguard room, and some of the items within the pool pump house. Meyer moved and Mazur seconded to approve Resolution 766. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 767: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR. 3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

Meyer moved and Madaras seconded to approve Resolution 767. Motion passed unanimously.

**Police Activity Report:** No report provided due to carpet installation taking place.

**Zoning:**

**Eric Campbell:**

Campbell stated he will be attending a webinar regarding blighted properties and will share any information afterwards.

**Council Reports:**

**Rahe:**

Rahe stated she had forwarded an email (attached) to council regarding the timeline for the speed study on State Route 105 and stated she felt Council could do better with communicating to residents.

**Streets and Sidewalks:** Rahe stated Streets, Sidewalks, Lands & Buildings Will meet on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm located at townhall.

Rahe thanked Sue Wolfe for the potting soil used for the downtown planters, she thanked Russ Abke for the discount on fall plantings, and the Peddle Pushers for maintaining the planters around the Village. Mayor stated the volunteers for the Peddle Pushers are Sharon Nigh, Joanne Busdeker, Cindy Lohbrach, Ruth Phillips, Pat Rollins, Sue Rahe, Joanne Brunning, Sue Wolfe, and Janelle (employee of Sue Wolfe).

**Angel:**

**Safety Committee:** Angel stated the Safety Committee met and discussed various locations for the speed radar signs. Potential sign locations are as followed:

1. 719 W. Front St., - coming into town
2. 627 Water St., - coming into town
3. Forrest Ave. and Bierley Ave., - heading out of town
4. Sherman St., - roughly near the streets building near the curve
5. Callback suggestion: E. Front St. – one the other side of the tracks heading out of town
6. College Ave. – near the pool and would be seasonal.

**Long:**  
Absent

**Madaras:**

Tree Committee: Madaras stated the Tree Committee has been out trimming trees. Madaras stated a few members of the Tree Committee will be meeting with Stephanie Miller from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to review a list of trees that are of concern. Madaras stated the next Tree Committee meeting is Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm located at Village townhall.

Madaras stated he is done with mosquito sampling. Madaras stated the last West Nile test was negative.

**Mazur:**

Park and Rec: Mazur stated the Committee met and completed the grant application. Mazur stated John Gibson, boy scout leader discussed gaga ball and utilizing the concrete pad next to the shelter house. There was some concern about safety using the concrete pad. Mazur stated they did not think about that and will re-visit with the committee. Mazur stated the committee currently has little participation and she asked Gene Steele to consider joining the Park Committee. Mazur stated the next Park and Recreation meeting will be Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm located at Village townhall. Mayor added that she was approached by a resident who complimented the pickleball court.

**Meyer:**

Meyer stated she would like to discuss communication and how to best provide information to Village residents. Meyer proposed a structure change of the agenda by including old business. In addition, Meyer proposed changing how the minutes are written by reporting based on the committee instead of the Council member. The Fiscal Officer stated committees should be submitting minutes and suggested having the committee minutes included with Council minutes. Meyer stated she liked the idea. An ad hoc committee was discussed and created to discuss communication.

**Mayor:**

Mayor stated the Village has received a Proclamation indicating the new Census Village population of 1371.

Mayor stated the Bierley St. bridge has been cleared of logs. Mayor explained that Bierley St. is a county road within the jurisdiction of Pemberville which leaves the responsibility of cleaning below the bridge at the County level.

Mayor reported BPA met last night and discussed the need of 2 utility easements for the force main projects.

Mayor stated she received word that the backhoe the Village ordered in June is currently sitting in a port and we will likely not see it delivered until June 2022.

Mayor reported that the ODOT signs on State Route 105 at the west-end have been moved. Striping has been approved and are waiting to have it scheduled.

Mayor stated Halloween is Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00pm

Mayor stated PIMA is sponsoring Scarecrow Walk. Mayor added that she and the office staff have participated with the "Night of the Opera".

Mayor asked Council to consider moving forward with approving the splash pad soon. Mayor explained that in her research she had found there are very minimal companies that see the process from beginning to end, that most would have to outsource each step. Mayor located a company that can do all steps with a cost estimate of roughly \$114,300. Mayor explained the splash pad would replace the wading pool that is currently sharing the same cycling system. Mayor stated that in speaking to the Wood County regarding grandfathering learned they are highly in favor of separating the two. Mayor added the pool had received \$50,000 from Mr. Opelt's estate, and the Village can utilize \$25,000 from the ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act funds for lost revenue due to COVID. Mayor stated she will continue to seek donations but would like Council to consider the timeframe on

approving the hiring of this company. Mayor added she was aware of the bidding process for projects over \$50,000 but with speaking to the Fiscal Officer was made aware of potentially passing an Ordinance to accept a contract without the competitive bidding process.

Mayor stated Mr. and Mrs. McDonnell was in attendance to voice their concern with the access road leading to the installation of a Columbia Gas Substation. Mrs. McDonnell stated it had been indicated by Columbia Gas that the access road would be gravel. Mrs. McDonnell stated she had been maintaining the area and would no longer maintain if gravel was installed. Mayor stated she had been in communications with Columbia Gas and the access road was discussed and asphalt was more favorable. Meyer moved and Angel seconded to have Columbia Gas install an asphalt access road to their substation located at the end of Martin Ave. Motion passed unanimously.

**Guest:**

**Gene Steele:** Steele discussed the Bierley St. bridge cleanup. Steele discussed the student water shed "The Student Watershed Watch (SWW) brings our young people out to area waterways in northwest Ohio every year for sampling, studying, and reporting. Their hands-on analysis of water quality generates an appreciation for our natural resources and fosters the next generation of water stewards." Steele stated he will continue to attend the TMACOG meetings for further information on the program.

**Tom Bettenbrock:** Mr. Bettenbrock asked for a follow-up to his concerns he brought before Council regarding Water St. and visibility. It was stated the camper in question was to be completed and moved a few weeks back but is still sitting in the same location. Mr. Bettenbrock also voiced concern regarding a composting area located near the property line between him and the neighbor in question. Zoning Inspector stated the resident is not in violation with regards to the composting station. The situation concerning the RV, a violation letter will be sent asking the resident to move the RV based on the Zoning rules and regulations.

Mayor Bailey adjourned the meeting at 8:14 P.M.

\*Audio recordings and attachments of the meetings not included with the minutes are available upon Public Records request.

**St. Rt. 105 - Speed limit timeline:** In September 2019 it was brought to the attention of council by Mayor Bowman that the Village was not in compliance with the state's statutory speed limits on St. Rt. 105, and he asked the council to perform a speed study. This issue was brought to the previous council's attention, but prior councils did not address the issue. Listed is a timeline of events that occurred to bring Pemberville into compliance with the state's speed limits.

**September 17, 2019, Council** - minutes reflect - Mayor Bowman requested that the Street Department contact the Ohio Department of Transportation about doing a speed/traffic study and the cost.

**October 1, 2019, Council** - minutes reflect - Rahe stated that she has been in contact with Chris Waterfield at ODOT and they are reviewing the possibility of a speed study on State Route 105. Rahe stated more information yet to come.

**October 9, 2019** - Mayor Bowman emailed Council an engineering quote from Poggemeyer of \$4580 to perform a speed study for the Village.

**February 18, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect - Maps of ODOTS proposed speed limits were shared with council. Minutes reflect - Rahe passed out a map to council that indicates the ODOT required speed limits within the village limits on the State Route. Rahe stated she and Carol met with Chris Waterfield with ODOT to go over the State requirements for speed limits on a State Route and what they learned recently is that the speed limits coming through town on State Route 105 are not up to the State's requirements. Rahe stated that the map is to give you an idea of what the speed limits should be per the State's requirements. Rahe stated that when this was mentioned late last year, they had obtained a quote through Poggemeyer for over \$5,000 to complete a speed study. However, Mr. Waterfield went over a program on how they do a speed study and one of the requirements is to monitor the speed by sitting in an unmarked vehicle, during non-peak hours in 2 or 3 locations for 1 hour or until you reach 110 cars, whichever comes first. Rahe added that there is another program that is based on google maps, where you can measure the distance from landmark to landmark, or frontage to frontage. This information would then go into a spreadsheet with all the required documents and then it calculates what the speed limits should be. Rahe stated Mr. Waterfield is willing to help with completing the speed study and once completed would be submitted to the State.

**March 3, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect portions of the speed study were completed. Rahe stated the speed study has been completed and she and Carol will begin working on the google maps portion of the study.

**May 19, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect speed study being worked on - Rahe stated she and Mayor have completed everything for the speed study. Rahe will put everything together and submit the speed study this week.

**June 2, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect - Rahe stated she submitted everything to the county for the speed study. Rahe stated she spoke to Chris Waterfield who received and reviewed the information. Rahe reported that Waterfield stated the information submitted was all good except for one area past Rahe's home on Front St. that Waterfield will do himself.

**June 16, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect - Mayor stated she received an email from Chris Waterfield and the traffic study should be completed by mid-July.

**August 4, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect - Mayor reported for Rahe by stating ODOT was in town this week to get the final pieces of the speed study. Hopefully they have what is needed to finalize the report. Mayor stated that once all the information was received it will be roughly a two week turn around.

**August 18, 2020, Council** - minutes reflect - Rahe stated she reached out to Chris Waterfield on the progress of the speed study, but he is on vacation this week and has nothing new to report.

**October 6, 2020, Council** - Speed study options presented to council, and option 6 was selected. Minutes reflect - Rahe stated the speed study is complete and Mayor had forwarded to all of Council the six (6) different options ODOT provided. Rahe stated option 1 is the current statutory limits of 50 mph from Lemoyne Rd. (west corporation limit) to Pine St., 25 mph from Pine St. to Water St., and 50 mph from Water St. to east corporation limits. Rahe recommends option 6 which consists of the statutory 50 mph from Lemoyne Rd. (west corporation limit) to 725 Front St. (.28 miles), journalized 40/35 from 725 Front St. to Pine St. (.51 miles), statutory 25 mph from Pine St. to Water St. (.11 miles), journalized 40/35 from Water St. to water treatment plant (.60 miles) and journalized 50 mph from the water treatment plant to the east corporation limit (.64 miles). Madaras moved and Angel seconded to accept option 6 of the ODOT speed study and enter into the sign agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

**December 1, 2020, Council** - 1st reading of Ordinance 1601 adopting ODOT's speed limits.

**December 15, 2020, Council** - 2nd reading of Ordinance 1601. Mayor Bailey commented that ODOT had been in town marking spots for the signs.

**January 5, 2021, Council** - 3rd reading and passing of Ordinance 1601. Before the motion was made to pass the Ordinance, Rahe asked how the change was going to be communicated to the residents. The minutes reflect - Rahe asked how this would be communicated to the residents. Mayor stated it has been at least 3 months since her last letter went out and there are a few other items she would like to make residents aware in addition to this Ordinance. Rahe moved, and St. Louis seconded to approve Ordinance 1601. Motion passed unanimously.

**April 2021** - ODOT installed the new signs, and the negative comments of Facebook started.

**May 3, 2021**, brush pick up - W. Front Street resident cut down 5 village trees on their property.

**May 25, 2021, Council** - minutes reflect - Madaras: Tree Committee: Madaras stated the Committee met and discussed the 5 trees on Village right-of-way that were accidentally cut down by a resident. Madaras stated the resident was concerned with the increase of speed limit and the view backing out of his driveway, stating the trees impeded their vision. Madaras stated the resident realized afterwards that the trees were on Village property, and he should have not cut them down. Madaras stated the resident could have been fined. However, the Committee agreed to have the resident replace the 5 trees with 5 new trees that the committee will place throughout the Village. Madaras stated the resident did ask the Village to split the cost of the trees however, members of the Committee felt the offer to replace the 5 trees was fair. Madaras asked that the Village cover the cost of planting the trees which is \$80 per tree. Madaras stated the 5 trees will be planted with the Tree City USA annual plantings. Madaras moved and Rahe seconded to have Mr. & Mrs. Zellner purchase 5 trees at their cost. Motion passed unanimously. Madaras added that he did inform the Zellners they were responsible for grinding the stumps of the trees he cut down.

**July 6, 2021, Council - minutes reflect**

*ODOT:* Mayor stated Countyline has asked ODOT for assistance in controlling the speed at their end of town during harvest. Mayor stated their concern is that cars are going too fast and harvest trucks won't clear the road. Mayor stated that ODOT has offered the Village a removable sign to place across from the library on the other side of the guardrail that will say "Slow Tractor" that can be put in at will. Mayor stated it was suggested not to leave it up year-round because people will become immune to them and quit looking at it. Mayor suggests to put it up at the beginning of fall and left up through harvest season.

**August 3, 2021, Council** - minutes reflect - Rahe stated there is a meeting Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. with Chris Waterford and residents of West Front St. to discuss the State Route 105 speed limit and speed study.

**August 11, 2021** - Meeting with Chris Waterfield (ODOT) and W. Front Street residents to review the speed study decision. Several questions were generated after the meeting from residents that Rahe reached out to Waterfield for assistance in answering.

**September 8, 2021** - Safety Committee "draft" minutes. The Safety committee met on September 8, 2021, at 5:00 pm at Town Hall. Present were committee members Daniel Angel, Chief Darling and Mayor Bailey. Other attendees were Susan Rahe, Laura Meyers, Eric Campbell and residents of W. Front Street Doug & Pam Zellner, Doug & Vicki Knott, Clay Chapman, & Kim Jakubec. The residents from W. Front Street were present to discuss the increased speed limit on 105 and options to improve safety. The committee reviewed the 6 options offered by ODOT and felt the council had selected the best option provided. The committee agreed to:

- Request clarification of the "Urban District" definition from ORC 4511.01.
- Schedule a Team/Zoom Meeting with ODOT (Chris Waterfield) to review the speed study calculations.
- Install the solar radar speed signs when received.
- Request ODOT to move the "35 speed ahead" further out (400 or 500 ft vs 200).
- Paint double yellow lines from Village limit to Village limit.

**September 21, 2021 Council** - W. Front Street residents attended Council to voice their frustrations.