

**Council of the Village of Yellow Springs
Executive Session Minutes**

In Council Chambers @ 5:30 P.M.

Monday, March 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council Karen Wintrow called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

ROLL CALL

Present were Wintrow, Vice President Brian Housh, Marianne MacQueen and Gerald Simms. Also present was Village Manager Patti Bates. Solicitor Chris Conard and Councilperson Hempfing arrived at 5:38, and Assistant Village Manager Melissa Dodd was present by phone from 6:30-6:45.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:31pm, MacQueen MOVED to ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION for the Purpose of the Discussion of the Possible Purchase of Real Estate.

Simms SECONDED, and the MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A ROLL CALL VOTE.

The following persons were present for Executive Session:

Tecumseh Land Trust Board Members: Evelyn LaMers; Susan Miller; Anne Randolph.
Tecumseh Land Trust Employee: Michelle Burns
Tecumseh Land Trust Executive Director: Krista Magaw
Tecumseh Land Trust Solicitor: Charlie Swaney
Community Solutions Board Member: Kat Walter
Community Solutions Executive Director: Susan Jennings
Miami Township Trustee: Chris Mucher
Miami Township Resident and Former Village Manager: David Heckler

All of these invited participants left the Executive Session at 6:18

At 6:43 pm, Simms MOVED and MacQueen SECONDED a MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION. The MOTION PASSED 5-0 on a VOICE VOTE.

REGULAR SESSION

Discussion Regarding the Pending Auction of Arnovitz Property. Wintrow introduced the topic, stating that Council has several options regarding use of the \$200,000.00 they had previously dedicated to protection of the Jacoby Greenbelt.

Wintrow stated that Council could consider the potential for purchase of the entire property or for some key tracts.

Hempfing stated that while she would like the Village to be able to purchase the entire property, there has not been enough time to plan for this option, and the Village is not in a financial position to be able to consider this realistically.

Housh commented that in the course of the Executive Session, the Finance Director had informed Council that there are not sufficient funds in the General Fund or in reserve funds to consider purchase of the entire property.

Wintrow noted that Council had previously passed a resolution (2017-14) dedicating up to \$200,000.00 to be used for protective easements, and asked whether Council was still in favor of that expenditure.

Hempfing MOVED THAT THE VILLAGE MANAGER ACT TO PRIORITIZE PROTECTION OF THE JACOBY CREEK AND ITS TRIBUTARIES LOCATED IN TRACT EIGHT, AND TO PLACE A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON TRACT NINE. MacQueen SECONDED.

Simms commented that Council has set as a priority in this situation the protection of the creek. He asked that this be maintained as a primary goal.

Hempfing commented that Community Solutions is considering creation of a regenerative agricultural area on one of the tracts, should they obtain it, and offered her support of this plan. Hempfing stated her hope that the Village will be able to work with Community Solutions should the plan become possible, and asked the preservation of the creek would be in conjunction with Community Solutions' efforts.

Housh expressed agreement with Hempfling's sentiments, noting that this would be in line with Village goals.

Conard asked that Council pass a motion to provide further, more specific, direction to the Village Manager.

Wintrow affirmed that the motion on the table does provide that direction to Bates, who will attend the auction on March 16th.

Wintrow CALLED THE VOTE, and the MOTION PASSED 5-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

AGENDA PLANNING

Housh asked that Arts and Culture Commission be added to Special Reports for their end of year report and to make a request for funding on the March 20th agenda.

MacQueen asked that the draft letter to US Bank regarding the possible withdrawal of Village funds be added as a discussion item to the March 20th agenda.

Council discussed goals, and reiterated that the goals document will be on Monday's agenda as legislation.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:54pm, MacQueen MOVED and Housh SECONDED a MOTION TO ADJOURN. The MOTION PASSED 5-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Please note: These notes are not verbatim. A DVD copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the Clerk of Council's office between 9am and 3pm Monday through Friday.

Karen Wintrow, President

Attest: Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council