

AUGUST 2011 COMMUNICATOR

"All the news that fits, we print"

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

On July 26, 2011 Chairman Norman Christley, Esq. conducted a special meeting to amend and approve engineering site plans for the Hinsdale Rd. extension. All members were present, together with Village Zoning Inspector Dominic Gualtieri. After a review by the Commission, Village Engineer, Tim Lannon P.E. and Audley Zuber a representative of the neighboring property owner the proposed site plans were approved. The project is now going forward and is being publicly bid.

ADDITIONS TO COMMUNITY AND GRANT REQUESTS

The \$50,000 NOPEC energy efficiency grant bids were opened on June 21st and the good news is that the bids did not exceed the \$50,000 grant amount, but came in just over \$47,000. Construction is currently proceeding.

Also, as reported Dr. Fojas has agreed to sell the Village the old school property. The Village is awaiting a decision on the two ODNR grants total 94,000 that were submitted in February 1, 2011. The Village is, however, constrained not to enter into Purchase/Sales Agreement until the State rules on the two grant applications. The decision is now scheduled for September 12, 2011.

The purchase of the old Hiram School property will be financed through loan/mortgage/bonds (*at no cost to village tax payers*) and leased to Hiram College for the purposes of baseball field and observatory. An informal poll of neighboring property owners on Peckham, Hinsdale and Kenyon Dr., were positive to this proposal.

The Hinsdale Road extension Grant is proceeding as planned. The total project cost is \$355,000 and the grant is for \$177,500, Hiram College will be bearing the balance of the costs. A formal commitment contract was signed last month by Hiram College Pres. Tom Chema and approved in Ordinance 2011-18 and Resolution 2011-15. The project has also recently been approved by the OPWC Finance & Administration and the bids are being advertized. A special Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 30, 2011 at 6 p.m. to accept or reject construction bids.

FIRE AND EMS

The first one-half of the \$69,930 annual fee has just been received from the College toward the Police and Fire contract.

ANNEXATION NEWS

On June 24th, July 15th and again on August 2nd, 2011 MAYOR BERTRAND and Village Solicitor TOM REITZ met with PRES. THOMAS CHEMA, Attorney DOUGLAS PAUL, Counsel for the College, Village Builders Inc., Township Trustee, HON. STEVE PANCOST, Township legal Counsel MR. AL SCHRADER in an effort to settle all pending litigation.

CONSTRUCTION AT HIRAM COLLEGE

There are a number of ongoing College construction projects: Miller Hall, Hinsdale Hall, College Library. One project that will most affect the community, however, is the resurfacing of Henry Field and the complete remodeling of all lockers and dressing rooms at Pryce Gymnasium. The project includes the installation of some 210 new wooden and state of the art dressing rooms, showers and bathroom facilities. This project costs alone exceed one million dollars. The contractors on this project are: Hummel Construction Co. of Ravenna and Pro Turf of Pittsburgh, PA.

In honor of completion of this project it has been suggested that, although Hiram College owns the right-of-way, that Council pass a resolution of congratulations and join the College in renaming the right of way "*Terrier Drive*" from its present common name "*Light Plant Dr.*"

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Mayor whole heartedly endorses Ordinance 2011-23 (*first reading in August*) requiring all who are paid by an employer with its principal place of business located within the corporate limits of the Village of Hiram pay Hiram Village Income Taxes, as almost all other Ohio municipal income taxes require. After all Hiram Village gives 100% credit for all other municipal income taxes paid by our village residents.

COUNCIL POSITION VACANCY (2012 – 2016)

Incumbent Paul Spencer filed for one of the two open seats on Village Council. An elector interested in serving our community on Village Council is urged to file as a write-in candidate. The deadline for filing is: Monday August 29, 2011 at 4 p.m. Contact the PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, 449 S. Meridian St., Ravenna. The Board has the needed WRITE-IN CANDIDATE documents. | Ph. 330-297-3511.

HIRAM VILLAGE GOVERNMENT MEETINGS:

Special Council Meeting: @ 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 30, 2011 followed by Finance Committee Meeting then Safety Committee.

Planning and Zoning Meeting: Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Department Heads Meeting: Monday, September 12, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. @Mayor's Office

Next Regular Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7 p.m.

All meetings are held in Council Chambers, Rosser Municipal Building. (330) 569-7677, 11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234, except as noted. <http://www.hiramvillage.org>

NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Police: 330.569.3236

Fire: 330.569.9826