

TONTOGANY VILLAGE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM: November 17, 2025

Council called to order in regular session at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Matthew Shanahan presiding. Opening ceremony: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mayor Shanahan. Roll call of members: Brenda Mackey, here; Connie Mehring, absent; Mark Smith, here; Robert Bergfeld, here; Lincoln Fox, here; Paul Neal, here. Also present was Fiscal Officer/Utilities Clerk Ryan Harnishfeger. Visitors present: school students Jackson Shanahan, Bella Simon, and Brennan Eilert; Joe Pemberton and Matt Zeigler from Suburban Natural Gas Company, to give the annual Suburban Gas Safety Presentation. Minutes from the November 3rd meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCE and CLAIMS: A spreadsheet of the current invoices was reviewed and approved by members. Councilman Bergfeld made a motion that these bills be allowed and orders drawn for same. Councilman Smith seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Shanahan reported that we received an invitation to the Wood County Economic Development Commission's Holiday Reception on December 2, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Hilton Garden Inn Levis Commons, 6165 Levis Commons Blvd., Perrysburg, Ohio. Hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be served and a cash bar will be available. The mayor said he wasn't sure if he had ever attended this event before, but Tontogany officials and their guests are invited.

Mayor Shanahan shared a letter of gratitude received from Ron Hafner, a former resident of Tontogany, regarding the recent veteran banner presentation. Mr. Hafner wrote, "I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the work involved in the Tontogany Honor Banners. Thank you for the time and energy you've dedicated to this very worthwhile project. I believe my father John, as well as his two brothers, would be very pleased with their banners. As a village council man in the 1970's, I know that your tireless efforts to improve my "home town" have made a positive difference to folks who call Togany home now. As the eldest of the "Hafner kids" I believe I can speak for my siblings and say again, "thank you"." Mr. Hafner added a postscript to his letter: "I still think of myself as a "Togany Townie"."

Mayor Shanahan reported that Fire Chief Gase had asked him to see if he could get a confirmation on RSVPs for the Washington Township/Fire Department Christmas Dinner, which will take place on December 8th at the Nazareth Hall, 21211 West River Road, Grand Rapids, Ohio, starting at 6:00 p.m. The mayor went around the conference table, asking each official if they and any guests would be attending the dinner or not. He said he would send the update to Chief Gase and let him know that Connie Mehring was not present to say whether she would be attending or not.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported two more hall rentals paid for in November: one on Thursday, November 27th (Thanksgiving Day) and one on Sunday, November 30th. He also reported that there are four paid hall rentals in December: Saturday, December 6th, Saturday, December 13th, Wednesday, December 24th, and Saturday, December 27th.

Mayor Shanahan invited the gentlemen from Suburban Natural Gas to take the floor. Mr. Pemberton passed out to everyone copies of the *Suburban Natural Gas 2025 Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Bulletin for Public Officials*. He pointed out that he had with him Senior Field Operations Manager Matt Zeigler. He reported that they completed a survey in 2025 and everything went smoothly. He told Council that Suburban just filed a rate application on June 15th for an increase in rates. He noted that it is typically about a year before rate changes come to fruition, if allowed. They are asking for an increase of 6.67% on their base rates. It has been seven years since their last rate increase and they are required to apply for increases every seven years, so the customer doesn't receive possible larger increases due to waiting longer between rate adjustments. 6.67% amounts to less than a 1% increase per year. There are rate study and other costs associated with rate increase requests, and there is no guarantee that the requested increase will be approved. He mentioned, by way of comparison, that some companies are applying for rate increases as high as 30% and 41%. Mayor Shanahan asked how Suburban communicates to communities about rate increase applications. Mr. Pemberton

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answered that public officials will receive communications from the Commission and you will also see notices posted in all forms of newspapers. Mr. Pemberton expressed that it was a privilege to be able to serve Tontogany and they don't take rate increases lightly. Mr. Pemberton then pivoted to Suburban's public awareness message. He said that they continue to ask public officials to partner with the gas company to help promote safe digging practices and to let the public know that they must call the 811 number 48 hours prior to any excavation activities, to have the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) notify utilities to mark the location of underground utility lines where excavation is intended to be done. He stressed that the leading cause of issues is when people forget to call the 811 number. Mr. Pemberton told Council that Suburban Natural Gas is approaching having 21,000 customers. With natural gas, customers have choices of various companies desiring to serve them, so this tends to produce competitiveness in pricing which is good for the consumer. The mayor asked Mr. Pemberton when the application for the Suburban Community Development Grant needs to be submitted. Mr. Pemberton replied that it is whenever you like, but Suburban would like to have it before the end of 2025 if possible. The mayor told Mr. Pemberton that we appreciate the community funding that they provide to us each year. Members agreed. Councilwoman Mackey said she would make sure that the *Suburban Natural Gas 2025 Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Bulletin* gets posted at the post office. With nothing more to discuss, Mayor Shanahan thanked the gentlemen from Suburban and they left the meeting, after Mr. Pemberton first passed out pens to everyone.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger provided everyone with copies of his proposed 2026 appropriations budget with notes added next to each line item. He commented that most of the items on the budget are standard items needed each year and members could see by his notes that he either kept the amounts the same as last year or increased or decreased them as he thought appropriate, based on spending in the current year. He pointed out that he had highlighted in yellow certain items in the budget which may need discussion and input from members, the first of which was a new line item in the general fund that he had added for contractual services at the parks, for which he had budgeted \$20,000. He noted that this budget item is distinguished from the usual line item for park supplies and materials, which remains in the budget with a \$12,000 allocation. He asked members if they thought \$20,000 was a good amount to budget or if the amount should be adjusted. Mayor Shanahan asked Councilman Smith if he had any information on costs for park work we had discussed. Mr. Smith replied that, based on the estimates he had received for doing the electric upgrade and lights project at Centennial Park, it would be about \$11,000. Councilwoman Mackey remarked that that sounds like good news. Mr. Smith said that he would provide details on the estimates later, when we get to the topic of City Hall & Parks. The mayor commented that we could use the new line item to cover plumbing issues that we consistently have with the fountain. He said he thought \$20,000 would be a good starting point for this new line item in the budget, and then we could adjust it in the 2027 budget, based on how we use it in 2026. Members voiced agreement with the mayor.

Mr. Harnishfeger pointed out highlighted items on page 2 of the budget, beginning with payroll and withholding line items included for an assistant to the fiscal officer, in consideration of the need to hire, train, and orient a replacement fiscal officer. Mr. Harnishfeger told members that he used his own salary as a measure for six months of salary for an assistant, to make sure enough would be allocated, although Council will ultimately determine what hours and rate of pay for the new hire, perhaps with consideration of their experience level. He commented that the best option, if possible, would be to find a person who is already an experienced fiscal officer. He gave his recommendation to first seek a referral of someone who is local and is known, or, if necessary, extend the search throughout Wood County. It could be advertised as an opportunity for another current fiscal officer to increase their income by taking on a second part-time position doing the same kind of work they are already doing. Members did not request any changes to the budget amounts for an assistant to the fiscal officer.

Mr. Harnishfeger continued on page 2 of the proposed budget, to the highlighted line item for hall improvements and repairs. He told members that he increased the amount from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for

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2026, because the mayor and members had discussed a desire to buy a replacement for the present damaged conference table. He said he had researched prices and found that conference tables can easily cost \$2,500, according to what size and type you get. And new chairs would add more cost as well. He noted that our current conference table is 8 feet long. He pointed out that a longer table would allow for seating of the village administrator and the utilities superintendent. However, he commented that consideration would need to be taken as to where to store a larger table out of the way of hall renters, and it would need to be manageable for the new fiscal officer to move it around. Councilman Fox commented that, ideally, we would want a conference table on wheels, if we could get that. The mayor and members briefly discussed some ideas on where to store a larger table. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if members thought \$5,000 was enough to budget for hall improvements. He reminded them that they had also discussed the possibility of upgrading the heating and cooling in the hall office, which would definitely require more money in the budget, if they decided to do so. Mayor Shanahan commented that we should at least get a quote for the heater to give us an idea of what expense we would be looking at. Councilman Smith told Mr. Harnishfeger to increase the budgeted amount to \$15,000 for hall improvements, to be safe, which would cover a new heating and cooling system. Members agreed. Mr. Fox said he thought Downey's price for a heating and cooling upgrade for a single room was around \$5,000, although that was about three years ago.

Mr. Harnishfeger pointed out that the last highlighted item on page 2 in the general fund was a line item for capital outlay for streets or sidewalks. He told members that we have used this line item in the past to provide money to supplement the street fund for very large street and/or sidewalk projects. He said he did not budget any money in this line item for 2026, because we have not been using it in recent years. He asked members if they thought they had big enough street/sidewalk projects this year to warrant budgeting some supplemental money here, or if enough could be budgeted to cover everything from the street fund alone. He noted that he budgeted \$75,000 in the street fund for this purpose, and that the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources would allow this amount to be increased quite a bit, as needed. Members discussed possible sidewalk and street projects and costs, considering the fact that the Village only pays half of the sidewalk costs on a 50/50 sidewalk project. Councilman Fox asked what it would cost if we decide to repave Broad Street. Councilman Smith answered that it would be about \$50,000 just to do a mill and fill. After a little more discussion, members asked Mr. Harnishfeger to increase the street fund line item for street and sidewalk work to \$90,000, instead of \$75,000, and to just leave the general fund line item for capital outlay for streets or sidewalks at \$0 for 2026. Mr. Harnishfeger pointed out that there are some other line items in the budget with smaller amounts that can also be used for streets or sidewalks, if needed. He also reminded the mayor and members that, if a very large unexpected project comes up that wasn't included in the original appropriations budget, a supplemental appropriation ordinance can be adopted to make more money available for it. The mayor noted that \$3,000 was budgeted from the general fund for office equipment. He asked Mr. Harnishfeger where the money would come from for our system upgrade that we will have to do. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if he meant the utilities upgrade to Muni-Link. The mayor replied that he did. Mr. Harnishfeger responded that the money for the Muni-Link upgrade fees is budgeted from the water and electric funds out of line items specifically for that purpose. The line items for office equipment in the general fund and in the water and electric funds provide money for any office equipment needed.

Mr. Harnishfeger continued on page 3 of the budget proposal. Since the highlighted line item on the street fund had already been discussed, he pointed out the highlighted line item in the trees fund, where he had budgeted \$12,000 for tree expenses, such as tree maintenance and planting of new trees. He told members that he had decreased the amount from \$14,000 in 2025 to \$12,000 in 2026, because we used very little of the money appropriated for 2025. He asked members if they thought \$12,000 would be good for 2026 or if there was a need to adjust that amount. Mayor Shanahan reported that Orville Buehrer had asked him if the Village will spread lanternfly powder at the base of trees to kill off the lanternflies before they damage the trees. The mayor said he told Orville that he was unaware that

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there was something out there to treat lanternflies. Orville said he had talked to North Branch about it, but he thought Family Farm & Fleet might also have it. The mayor suggested that that could be included in our expenditures from the tree fund money. Councilman Smith commented that we are kind of running out of trees to cut down or trim. Councilman Fox asked how much we spent last year on trees. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that he would have to look, but it wasn't very much. Mr. Smith estimated that it was no more than about \$2,000. The mayor commented that we may need to trim around some wires, since it has been about three years since we last did that. Mr. Smith added that that was around \$5,000 the last time we did it, and it should be a lot better now. Councilwoman Mackey told members that Tim Dunn, from the funeral home, had expressed interest in having a tree replaced that was taken down. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if members were good with the proposed budget of \$12,000 for tree maintenance. Members answered that they were, with no objections voiced.

Mr. Harnishfeger continued to the highlighted items on page 4 of the proposed budget. He pointed out that he had added line items for salary and withholdings for an assistant to the utility clerk, similarly to the fiscal officer assistant position. He said he again used his current wages to figure up to six months of pay for a new utility trainee, although Council will ultimately need to determine the hours and rate of pay for the new hire, perhaps with consideration of their experience level. He commented that, when he was the new utility clerk trainee, he came in for about two hours a week to train with Karen Rader. Mr. Harnishfeger reminded the mayor and members that a few months ago he had expressed a desire to retire in the not-too-distant future. He said he would really like a target date of about the 30th of June, 2026, to retire. With that in mind, he pointed out that he had budgeted \$12,500 each from the water fund and from the electric fund to cover all costs for upgrading the utilities software to the Muni-Link solution, including implementation fees, monthly fees, and any costs for extra services such as robocalls, text messages, or email notifications. He told members that they each had a copy of an email communication that he received from Muni-Link Senior Consultant Mac Rosenbaum, apprising us of Muni-Link cost increases that will take effect beginning January 1, 2026, and offering to allow us to lock in the lower 2025 prices if we sign up before January 1st. Mr. Harnishfeger noted that he had created a price-comparison sheet and attached it to Mr. Rosenbaum's letter. He pointed out that the total difference of the basic implementation charges and monthly fees at 2026 prices will be only \$1,015 more than the 2025 prices, but it is something to consider. He said he put enough money in the budget to cover all costs at the 2026 rates. He explained that payments begin with the one-time implementation fee of \$18,650 or \$19,550, at 2025 or 2026 rates, respectively. The implementation fee is split into two equal increments, the first half at the beginning and the second half about three months later. Then the monthly fees of \$590 or \$609, at 2025 or 2026 rates, respectively, kick in beginning one month before going live with the new system. He commented that, once the monthly fees kick in, then it would from that time forward be a total of \$7,080 for 12 months at 2025 prices or \$7,308 for 12 months at 2026 prices. Beyond 2026, modest price increases should probably be anticipated as a normal cost of doing business. Mr. Harnishfeger told members that, if they want to get in at 2025 prices, they need to make that decision and then he will contact Mac Rosenbaum, who will prepare a contract for the Village to sign before January 1st. Otherwise, we can wait until 2026, but one way or the other we need to get going on it because support for our current utility software, Fundbalance, ends on December 31, 2026. Councilman Neal commented that the monthly rate for Muni-Link will be lower than the monthly rate we would have had to pay for the other utility package we were considering. Councilman Fox asked if we would have to start paying the monthly fee by the first of the year, if we sign up in 2025 to get the 2025 prices. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that we do not. The large implementation fee covers all of the labor to translate our current database into the Muni-Link program, plus all training to use Muni-Link. This period can last from about six to eight months. The monthly fees then begin only one month before you are ready to go live with Muni-Link. There is not any overlapping of the initial fee and the monthly fees. Mr. Harnishfeger said that, to estimate budget amounts, he had guessed that the implementation period would be six months and then the monthly fees would be the last six months of 2026. Mr. Fox

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asked if we would still be using the old billing system until we are ready to go live with Muni-Link. Mr. Harnishfeger replied that we will. Mr. Fox asked how long we can continue to use the old billing system. Mr. Harnishfeger replied that we can use it until the end of 2026, after which we would have no support for it from Tyler Technologies. He added that you could use the old software beyond the end of 2026, but if anything goes wrong with the software, you would be unable to get it fixed—a situation you do not want to find yourself in. Mayor Shanahan summed it up that Muni-Link would be about six months in building a system that meets our needs until it is ready for use, and then we will back out of the current program and begin using Muni-Link from that point forward. Mr. Fox said he was trying to figure out if we would be spending extra money for no reason by signing up for Muni-Link in 2025. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that we would not; we would actually be saving money by taking advantage of the lower 2025 pricing. The up-front fee has to be paid no matter when you sign up; waiting until 2026 increases that cost and could present other problems if an unforeseen delay should happen during the implementation stage, causing you to need to use Fundbalance longer than expected. Councilman Smith said he didn't see any reason to sit here and wait on it, since we all know what we are going to do. He said he thought we need to make a decision and get Muni-Link implemented as soon as possible. He commented that it will be more efficient and better for us. Training will be available for Mr. Harnishfeger and whoever replaces him. He said he thought we should sign on the dotted line and make it happen. Other members voiced agreement with his comments. Councilman Bergfeld asked if we needed to have a roll-call vote on the matter. The mayor said he was thinking the same thing, starting with a motion and a second. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve a contract with Muni-Link at their 2025 rates. Councilman Neal seconded this motion. The roll being called upon this motion, the results were as follows: Mackey-Aye; Smith-Aye; Bergfeld-Aye; Fox-Aye; Neal-Aye. The motion carried. Councilman Neal asserted that the end line is really dependent on getting Mr. Harnishfeger's replacement; that is the next critical step. Members voiced agreement with Mr. Neal. Councilman Bergfeld added that we have to do it as soon as possible and start advertising. Mr. Smith commented that it would be good to get the new person or persons trained at the same time. Members agreed.

Mr. Harnishfeger pointed out that the highlighted line items in the electric fund were a reiteration of the same amounts from the water fund, for the electric fund's part of appropriations for an assistant utility clerk and for Muni-Link costs. Members did not voice any desire to change the amounts proposed for these expenses. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if anyone had a suggestion for something not covered in the proposed budget, that they would like to add, or if there were any proposed amounts for anything in the budget that they would like to adjust up or down. Mayor Shanahan estimated that the budget would be close to a total of 1.7 million dollars with the adjustments already discussed. Councilman Bergfeld asked about the survey for the rate increase that the EPA wanted us to do. The mayor replied that he has to do some follow-up with that. Mr. Harnishfeger commented that we were supposed to be able to get a rate study done for free. The mayor said that he will most likely table it until after the holidays, and he said he thought it would be something that would warrant inviting the organization to come to a council meeting to discuss it with Council. Councilman Neal reminded members that last year we talked about website improvements. He said we had talked about Mailchimp software for giving the website the ability to add communications between the person looking at the website and someone here. He said that the price for that would be \$300 per month, or over \$3,000 in the budget, if we were still thinking we wanted that. He commented that, so far, from everything that has come his way, there has not been a demand for it, so he intends to put it aside unless someone says something different. Councilman Smith recalled that Solicitor Skaff sent us an email a couple of weeks ago about our website. Mr. Harnishfeger responded that he was just about to bring that up. He reminded members that Solicitor Skaff had informed us about recently adopted government website requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requiring an update of the Village's website that will likely cost in the neighborhood of \$4,000. Mr. Harnishfeger pointed out that he had added enough money in the general fund's website line item to more than cover this extra required expense. The mayor commented that we

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will have a conversation with Haley about the ADA requirement. Mr. Smith added that Haley has probably experienced similar ADA-related upgrade requests from other clients of hers, familiarizing her with what is needed for compliance. The mayor told Councilman Neal that we would get information from Solicitor Skaff for him regarding the ADA requirement, which he can then share with Haley, and Haley can then advise us of the costs to do the website upgrade. Mr. Neal commented that the mayor could call Haley directly or pass the information through him to her. The mayor told Mr. Neal that he would rather funnel the information through him, since he has become our liaison with Haley for web-related matters. Mr. Neal reported that the latest local business posted on our website is Gail Christofferson's Animal House Glass Studio. The mayor asked Mr. Harnishfeger if the budget discussion was completed. Mr. Harnishfeger replied that we should probably entertain a motion to accept the proposed budget with the two changed amounts agreed upon. Councilman Bergfeld asked if we need to add a special line in the budget for job postings. Mr. Harnishfeger answered that we already have advertising covered in the budget. Members looked at it and concluded that enough money was appropriated for advertising. Mr. Neal noted that the proposed budget for 2026 (before changes) is \$72,440 more than the 2025 budget. He pointed out that \$25,000 is the Muni-Link increase. He concluded, therefore, that the bottom line is that we have increased our expenses by \$47,440. Councilman Smith commented that that is just appropriated money; it doesn't mean we have to spend it all. Councilman Smith made a motion to accept the proposed appropriations for 2026 with the changes that were discussed. Councilman Bergfeld seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. The mayor and members thanked Mr. Harnishfeger for his work on the budget. Mr. Harnishfeger asked if he should have the 2026 appropriations ordinance ready for adoption at the first meeting in December as emergency legislation, which would require the presence of at least five council members. The mayor answered that he should do so.

ZONING: Mayor Shanahan reported that he sent out the zoning spreadsheet with updated information on the certified letters that were sent to people. He said we have not got a lot of traction. One of the inoperable cars was moved and corrected. We received some feedback from Solicitor Skaff about how to move forward on the matter of the sidewalk letter. He said that he and Councilman Smith will be setting up a meeting about that probably this week, in an effort to get an agreement in place, but most likely nothing will happen on it until spring. As for the other two inoperable cars, the mayor said that, outside of signing for the certified letters, no contact with the Village has been made and there has been nothing done with the vehicles. On the matter of the weeds, the mayor said that the resident signed for his certified letter, but did not set up a meeting with the Village; however, the mayor said he noticed that an effort has been made to cut down the weeds. Councilwoman Mackey asked if we would have the inoperable vehicles towed at the owner's expense. The mayor answered that the letter asked the resident to contact the Village within fourteen days of receiving their letter, which didn't happen. Therefore, the mayor said he would email Solicitor Skaff tomorrow with the updated status on each case and ask him what should be our next step that would make the most sense, whether it might be to send a last-chance letter or to just call a towing company, or whatever he would advise the Village to do. Councilman Neal reminded the mayor and members that in our April meeting Solicitor Skaff, when giving advice on handling these kinds of issues, had said that sometimes it is useful to send a second notice and, after the final notice, turn it over to the attorney. The mayor responded that he thought Solicitor Skaff will probably tell us something like that. Councilman Smith suggested telling Solicitor Skaff what we are planning to do and asking him to stop us if it is something we shouldn't do. The mayor said that Councilman Smith is copied on all of his emails and he will also forward the guidance he gets from Solicitor Skaff to the other members. Mr. Neal told the mayor and members that Solicitor Skaff has approved the ordinance audit that he had completed and sent to Mr. Skaff for review, and he had said that it is a comprehensive audit of valid Tontogany ordinances. Mr. Neal commented that the audit identified that we have three different procedural forms, including one that he drafted and one that

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Paul Skaff drafted. Mr. Neal suggested that we work to finalize a single procedure that serves us well. Councilman Fox added that a standard procedure would set a precedent on how we handle these things. Mr. Neal agreed and said he would be willing to work on putting together a procedure with the form or forms we think work best, and then submit it to Solicitor Skaff for his final input and approval. Mr. Neal also commented that, if we have a standard procedure in place, it can be given to a replacement zoning inspector, so he or she knows exactly what to do and everyone is happy.

Councilwoman Mackey reported that at the first big house on the north side of Main Street there is a camper parked in the driveway with lights on in the camper at night. She said she didn't know if it is being used as a residence for someone or not. Mayor Shanahan answered that we could follow up on that.

Councilman Neal reported that Solicitor Skaff's recommendation was that he wants to update our comprehensive zoning code. The last one was written in 1991. Mr. Neal said that he started a minor audit on what is on the website and the zoning code we have there is incorrect and it is missing whole sections of the zoning code.

UTILITIES: Councilman Smith asked if someone was digging a hole in town today. Councilwoman Mackey commented that she saw where a resident said their water was off. Mr. Smith added that someone on Wall Street said their water was off for a minute over by the grain elevator. Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger added that a couple of people on Main Street also contacted the office today about their water being off, but it got turned back on pretty quickly. Mr. Harnishfeger said he called Chad Johnson about it, who came in and checked with Palmer and found that they had to turn the water off for a little bit to do some work and then they turned it back on.

STREETS and ALLEYS: Nothing to report.

SIDEWALKS and TREES: Nothing to report.

DRAINS and SEWERS: Nothing to report.

CITY HALL and PARKS: Councilman Smith reported that he received an estimate from Downey for lights at Centennial Park, having requested estimates for both upgrading the lights at the park and for repairing the service at the park. He told members that the estimate for electrical service repair was \$2,889, and he read from the quote that it includes demo and disposal of old distribution equipment on the wood pole; furnishing and installing one new 100 amp combo meter main with built-in main breaker and 10 space panel; new mast, whether head and wire up the existing pole; replacing existing circuits with new breakers; updating grounding system; repairing broken conduits near ground (has exposed wires); permit/inspection; coordination with Utility company for disconnect/reconnect; quote is based on tax exempt project; all work is to be done per state and local codes; quote is based on normal working hours. Mr. Smith commented that he thought it was a pretty good price for bringing us up to code. He added that it doesn't change the lighting circumstances, but it at least makes the service to the shelter house safer. Members agreed. Councilman Fox advised that we need to get moving on that sooner, rather than later. Members agreed. Mr. Smith told members that the separate estimate for upgrading the lights was \$8,965, and he read from the quote that it includes removal and disposal of existing flood lights; furnish and install new lighting system for the basketball court, including six LED flood lights with shields, reusing existing two wooden poles, reworking existing lighting circuits and operating controls, and all man-lifts and rigging to complete the light system; quote is based on tax exempt project; all work is to be done per state and local codes; quote is based on normal working hours. Mr. Fox asked if we were thinking about doing that now or in the spring. Councilman Bergfeld said he thought we should do the electrical upgrade first. Mr. Smith agreed and commented that the

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quote is good for thirty days, which we are nearing. He said we can ask them to requote it later if we need to, but we now have an idea of the cost if we want to apply for a park grant. Councilwoman Mackey suggested that, if we went ahead and did all the electrical system repair work, it would speak well to the Park District that we have done our prep work for the lighting upgrade. Members agreed. Mr. Fox said he thought we should go ahead and do the electrical upgrade now and then maybe wait until grant time for the lighting upgrade. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the estimate from Downey of \$2,889 for the electrical upgrade. Councilwoman Mackey seconded this motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Mayor Shanahan asked Councilman Smith to reach out to Downey. Mr. Smith responded that he would be glad to give Travis a call, who is probably waiting on our response. Mr. Fox suggested that, while talking to Downey, Mr. Smith ask them to come out and give us an estimate for an upgrade of the heating and cooling in the hall office.

Mayor Shanahan reported that tree lighting is scheduled for November 30th. Councilwoman Mackey asked who will be honored to light the tree. The mayor answered that it will be Councilman Smith's wife, Hannah, as a way of saying thank you to her for all of her work on the 150th Celebration. Mr. Smith told the mayor and members that he will prepare and deliver the tribute speech for Hannah. The mayor continued to enumerate events that will take place at the tree lighting, including that Doc's will be open from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; the firemen will be doing a freewill donation dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (burgers and hotdogs); Gail will have her art studio open at 4:00 p.m., doing mosaics with the kids; Santa will be here; there will be s'mores, hot chocolate, and doughnuts. He said that the tree will arrive on Wednesday, the 26th of December (we will deliver it from Bernie and Jean Scott's house and set it up). Lights will be installed on the tree on December 29th. On December 10th will be Hymns and Brews at Doc's. The mayor said that he sent out notices that the TMACOG meeting has been rescheduled for December 3rd at 5:30 p.m. at the hall. The mayor told members that he received a call last week from meteorologist Derek Witt from 13ABC, who has started a new segment called *Small Town America*. He said Derek had asked if he could meet with the mayor this week. Having mentioned it to his wife, the mayor said she suggested that it would be great to have Derek come the first week of December when the tree is up. The mayor said he called Derek back and he will be coming to town on December 4th to do their interview segment, and Derek is asking for other people to be there as well, who can give a little history of Tontogany. The mayor commented that maybe we can send them some pictures from the past, so they can see the old versus the new Tontogany. The mayor said he will also send him the documentary for him to watch, so he can pull some stories or picture out of there. He said that Derek told him the whole thing will only take about 25 or 30 minutes in the village.

The mayor reminded members that we have two meetings coming up in December—December 1st and December 15th. He said we can do our customary holiday cheer after the last meeting on the 15th. The mayor asked if Councilwoman Mackey and her husband will be in town for the tree lighting. She answered that they will.

Councilman Neal reported that we received another letter from Steve Powell about the Moser building. Mr. Neal said he asked former Zoning Inspector Chad Johnson if he had anything in writing that we have received regarding the Moser building, but he hasn't responded yet. Mr. Neal said his suggestion was that he go to Paul Skaff a tell him that he wants to protect the Village in responding to a nuisance situation, and he also wants to make sure that we are not dragged into something that is going to cost the Village a lot of money. Mr. Neal said he thought Solicitor Skaff should probably have the best way to articulate what should be done. Mayor Shanahan responded that the last he knew, the Wood County Building Inspector was to send a letter out, but that was all he said they could do. Mr. Neal asked if we ever got a copy of the letter. The mayor answered that he didn't think we have. Mr. Neal said he was looking for any kind of evidence at all. The mayor said he will email him and ask for a copy of the letter, if they did, in fact, send a letter. Mr. Neal said he thought we should reflect in the zoning log that we received another letter from Steve Powel about the Moser building. The mayor responded that he would add it to the zoning log, so the issue stays in front of us. He said he realizes that Steve is worried

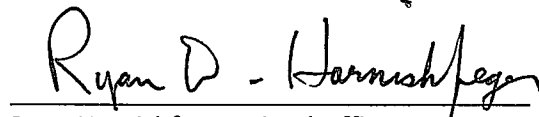
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about the continued deterioration of the building. Mr. Neal commented that he thinks Solicitor Skaff can give us some insights, but that his primary interest right now is in protecting the Village, rather than getting the owner to do something.

Fiscal Officer Harnishfeger reported that there is still a bunch of disposable cups and items left in the hall kitchen from the 150th, which is in the way of renters. Councilwoman Mackey asked if Councilman Neal was intending to take the cups and other items to his church. Mr. Neal replied that he will be glad to do so. The mayor asked if he could take them tonight. Mr. Neal said he could. The mayor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Shanahan declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.


Matthew Shanahan, Mayor


Ryan Harnishfeger, Fiscal Officer