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Bellaire to get new business

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BELLAIRE — The village council welcomed another new business during their regular meeting Thursday, after Belmont County Commissioner Gordie Longshaw introduced Gary Young who is moving Ohio Valley Scales to Commerce Park.

Young, who also joined by Belmont County Port Authority Director Larry Merry and Assistant Director Bill Morgan, said he and his brother purchased the business from their father 20 years ago.

The scale business is relocating their operation from Dallas Pike, which calibrates and repairs industrial scales. They are planning on building a 1,500 square foot facility at the park.

"Our business is growing," Young said. "We do hope to build a 1,500 square foot facility. We will be bringing all of our employees from the Dallas Pike site and look forward to years of prosperous growing here in Bellaire."

In other news, Councilman William Marinacci put to end a long standing rumor during Thursday's regular council meeting, reporting the coal companies in the village do pay taxes.

According to Marinacci, there are six pieces of property in the village owned by coal companies, and after reviewing the matter, discovered the only tax the companies had been exempted from are for personal property, a tax which is being eliminated by the state anyway.

Also during the meeting, Councilman Rickie Parker suggested the council use approximately \$4,700 to repair a wall at the garage building near the village's water treatment plant. Council agreed to the motion and the building will be used to store some of the village equipment, including the sewer truck. The move will also make it possible to sell the former Emergency Medical Squad building on Washington Street. The \$4,700 was collected from the sale of village owned copper wire that was recently removed from utility poles.

Under new business, Parker reported that he has been in contact with other municipalities to determine if the village should charge water customers for the cost new water meters. According to Parker, other municipalities do charge businesses for their meters, but varied from community to community regarding residential meters.

Under ordinances, the council did not have the second reading of an ordinance that will change how village employees use sick time and personal time. That ordinance was sent back to committee.

Village Administrator Rebecca Zwack reported that she has been reviewing water accounts in an effort to correct inconsistencies in billing. She said there would be a curbside clean up day for the village, June 16 - June 20. Those who want to participate and dispose of large items need to stop into the village's water office or call the water office to have the proper forms filled out. There is a \$10 fee for the pick-up.

Also concerning garbage, Zwack said that because of an injury, the village is temporary back to running two garbage trucks for regular trash pick-up.

During the visitor's to council session of the meeting, council heard from a village resident who questioned the council regarding her property line and village owned property. Council also heard from a resident who rents property. The man urged the council to hire a code enforce and told council of a gas leak and poor wiring conditions in his home.

Solicitor Ed Sustersic asked the resident to schedule a meeting with him regarding the issue.

During the administrative reports, Lt. Donna Baroch, who was filling in for Chief Michael Kovalyk, reported the department has received a \$750 grant from the Elks. She also thanked village resident Jeff Durant for helping the department get the grant which will be used to purchase a portable electric generator for the department.

Councilmen Barry Zalesny and Jerry Olack were absent from the meeting.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for June 19 at 6 p.m.

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