

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Peter Wilson

**PRESENT:** Temple, Darcy, Donnalley, Hiner, Thomas & Beech

**ABSENT:** Cox

The regular meeting on November 14, 2023, was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Peter Wilson presiding.

Pastor Shuman opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 24, 2023**

Darcy made the motion to approve the minutes from the 10/24/23 regular meeting.

Temple 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Darcy made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$45,831.64

Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Darcy made the motion to approve payroll for PPE 10/28/23 in the amount of \$61,964.91

Temple 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

**GUEST (S)**

Bill Catlett was present at this meeting regarding the piece of property he owns along SR 154 on the south side just past the lift station. Dollar General has approached about purchasing, he has had the property surveyed in addition to checking records. He has not found any easements or right of way the village has as mentioned in an article earlier in the year. He came to ask if council opposed the idea of Dollar General on the property and him bring a business to town. Council woman Temple said the village can't stop you from selling your property to whomever you wanted. BPA chair Bill Hoover stated as long as the building is not built on the sewer line from the lift station, he sees no reason the BPA would be opposed. Mayor Wilson said he thinks Dollar General wants the village assurance before purchasing, Council woman Hiner ask why they would need to come to council again? The mayor believes Dollar General would need to go to the county and said it is up to the developer to research what is needed to build a building there. Council woman Donnalley said her only concern is the traffic; however, the road is already busy.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**RE: 3<sup>rd</sup> READING ORDINANCE NO. 2169-2023 – CEMETERY PRICING**

Thomas made the motion to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance No. 2169-2023, Cemetery pricing.

Hiner 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes with a roll call vote

Motion Passed

**RE: PRITCHARD AVE BRIDGE UPDATE**

Mayor Wilson reported the right of way work is continuing. The engineer is planning on being in town on Monday, when the mayor knows the exact time, he will inform Council and the BPA.

**RE: ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION PLAN UPDATE**

Electric aggregation letters will be sent to all eligible residents on or around November 21<sup>st</sup>. The letter outlines all the necessary steps an individual needs to take, the rate and the term of the rate. Council President Thomas verified that anyone could opt out at anytime they desire correct, yes, they can. The Village and Elkrun Township in this aggregation plan in tandem.

**RE: WILLOW GROVE PARK TREES REMOVAL UPDATE**

Mayor Wilson reported he has talked to the Columbiana County Soil and Water District. It is their recommendation that all tree stumps be left and that each tree be left in the creek 3 to 4 feet to divert the creek from the bank that is already washing away. Council agreed to move forward with the approval for Stumpmaster to remove the trees.

**RE: LED STREET LIGHT – CEDAR ST AREA**

Mayor Wilson reported in the council packet is a LED street light agreement, this agreement is for 10 streets lights in the Cedar St park and street area. Ohio Edison gave the village a few different options, one was to let the current lights burn out on their own then replace them with LED lights. The other is to replace all at once either paying an upfront cost of \$2,090.00 or financing the cost over 60 months at a cost of \$2,664.00. The lights will remain on the ESIP billing for street lights but broke out with the LED tariff rate.

Temple made the motion to replace all 10 street lights at once paying the up front fee of \$2,090.00.

Donnalley 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RE: RIVER VALLEY ORGANIZING**

Nick Gough, with River Valley Organizing, requested that Council amend the police department body camera policy to require the police chief to wear a body camera when actively taking calls. The chief is considered administrative, and the current policy does not require administrative to wear a body camera. Council President Thomas ask the question to be notated in the minutes but would like to take this to a committee for discussion. A personnel meeting was scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. Mr. Gough requested email addresses for those who would attending so he could send them information he would like them to have, he was told all email addresses are on the village website. Fiscal Officer requested she be included in the email for public records requirements.

The finance committee also set a meeting for November 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

**RE: RESOLUTION NO. 2171-2023**

Hiner made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2171-2023, a resolution for a water easement in relation the NE Pressure project with E’Deana McBane.

Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

**RE: RESOLUTION NO. 2172-2023**

Hiner made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2172-2023, a resolution for a water easement in relation to the NE Pressure project with Roseland Commons LTD, Roseland LTD and Roseland Commons Limited Partnership.

Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

**RE: RESOLUTION NO. 2173-2023**

Hiner made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2173 -2023, a resolution for an easement in relation to the S Market (Grant St) bridge and to transfer a piece of land near the existing canoe launch with the Columbiana County Commissioner’s.

Donnalley 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Village Solicitor Beech will coordinate with Asst. County Prosecutor Peddicord the necessary paperwork for the transfer. The county engineer’s office will complete the survey work.

**RE: PURCHASE ORDER REQUEST J&J TIRE**

Temple made the motion to approve \$1,200.00 to J&J Tire for new drive tires on the 2019 Chevy 5500 for the street department.

Hiner 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes  
Motion Passed

**RE: PURCHASE ORDER REQUEST UNKEFER SALES**

Council woman Hiner questioned which mower is the, this is the Kubota mower the street department purchased from the cemetery. Street Supervisor Oliver will be doing the work in house.

Temple made the motion to purchase a gear box in the amount of \$1,572.63 from Unkefer Sales for the Kubota zero turn mower.

Donnalley 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes  
Motion Passed

**RE: HIRING PT DISPATCHER – M JOHNSON**

Chief Abraham recommended Megan Johnson as a part time dispatcher for the department. He explained there is going to be a full time dispatcher on maternity leave, this will help deter overtime.

Thomas made the motion to hire Megan Johnson as a part time dispatcher.

Hiner 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes  
Motion passed

**RE: STATE CAPITAL BUDGET AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT IDEAS**

Mayor Wilson informed council the state is offering both the state capital budget expenditures and a community improvement grant. He apologized he just heard of this from our State Representative's assistant, the deadline for submittal of ideas is December 15<sup>th</sup>. The mayor said both are upfront funding and not reimbursable as the past awards. Council woman Hiner questioned if we knew the deadline for spending the money, this we do not yet. Her biggest concern is that we can't meet the deadlines and would have to give the money back. All agreed this would not be good look for the village. The mayor indicated this application process is more cumbersome than in the past, the application requires more a prepared cost estimate, and he will let council know when the meeting is if any want to attend.

**RE: SNOWMEN ON THE SQUARE**

Mayor Wilson ask council if they would be interested in sponsoring one of the Snowmen on the square the engineering class at the high school are doing for the fund raiser approved by council.

Hiner made the motion to purchase a Snowman from the engineering class in the amount of \$45.00.

Donnalley 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes  
Motion Passed

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT**

The following reports were submitted to council in their packets: The October bank reconciliation, the October month end fund summary and the most current November month end fund summary All vouchers were presented prior to the meeting for review and signatures. Ms. Wonner reported the Suburban and Vaccon have both been sold and picked up, the Suburban sold for \$4,150.00 and the Vaccon \$1,500.00. The AFLAC representative was back and met with all the departments. The 2024 health insurance renewal started with a 14% increase, the village representative at New York Life in Columbiana was able to obtain a rate reduction, the increase will be 2%. Ms. Wonner said for 2 years in a row the village has had very low claims with nothing over the \$25,000.00. Council woman Hiner said she still does not agree the Village should be considered a large employer by Anthem; Ms. Wonner agreed but stated Anthem says they look at the number of w2's not those on the plan. This is something that can be looked at during finance committee meeting. The October month end transfer totaled \$14,408.56, income tax collections for the month were \$138,171.06 5% of those plus the \$7,500.00. Ms. Wonner requested a transfer from

the General fund to the Street fund to off set the higher expenditures compared to revenues for the year and meet the estimated carry over balance for 2023.

Hiner made the motion to accept the 2% increase and approve the requested transfer from the General Fund (1000) to the Street Fund (2011).

Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes  
Motion Passed

**STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The street department report was distributed to council in their packets. Council woman Temple commended the street department on the job they did on the crack sealing just completed.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Hall reported the Open House for pictures with Santa is scheduled December 10<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 6:00 pm. The beams have been painted according to Chief Hall they look great. He thanked both Village residents and Center Township residents for the approval on their respective fire levies. He also presented two quotes for approval the first for the painting of the walls in the garage. After the beams being painted, he would like to finish the look with having the walls painted, this would be after the open house if approved. He also had a quote for replacement batteries for the portable radios. The Suburban has been sold \$4,150.00 and picked up.

Hiner made the motion to approve painting the walls in the garage by M&M painting not to exceed \$5,500.00 using fire levy funds.

Donnalley 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes with Thomas abstaining  
Motion passed

Hiner made the motion to approve the purchase of replacement batteries for portable radios from BearCom not to exceed \$1,300.00.

Darcy 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Ayes with Thomas abstaining  
Motion Passed

**BPA REPORT**

Bill Hoover, BPA Chairman reported the Vaccon has been sold \$1,500.00 and picked up. The pad work for the water tower has started. Both the Water EPA and Sewer EPA representatives visited the village on two separate days earlier in the month, the inspections went well with a few minor issues. These have already been corrected.

**ZONING DEPARTMENT**

The most current zoning applications were submitted to council in their packets.

With nothing further to come before council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the November 14, 2023, meeting at 7:30 pm.

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Mayor Peter Wilson

**ATTEST:**

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Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer