

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 28, 2025

PRESIDING: Wilson

PRESENT: Temple, Darcy, Cox, Hiner, Donnalley Smith & Beech

ABSENT:

The regular meeting on January 28, 2025 was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Wilson presiding.

Pastor Brian Brown, Nazarene Church, opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor Wilson distributed council committee assignments to council in their packets as follows: **Public Safety** – Cox, Donnalley, Hiner; **Finance** – Hiner, Donnalley, Darcy; **Personnel** – Darcy, Smith, Hiner; **Street** – Donnalley, Temple, Smith; **Parks** – Smith, Temple, Darcy; **Cemetery** – Temple, Cox, Darcy; **Fireman’s Relief** – Cox, Hiner, Darcy; **Sewer** – Cox, Temple, Smith; **Zoning** – Donnalley, Temple, Smith; **Community Foundation** – Donnalley; **Shade Tree Commission** – Donnalley

Donnalley made the motion to approve the committees as presented.

Darcy 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 14, 2025

Darcy made the motion to approve the minutes of the 1/14/25 regular meeting

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Darcy made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$26,051.63 and PPE 1/18/25 in the amount of \$62,812.01

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

GUEST (S):

Prior to recognizing guests who had signed into speak, the Mayor reminded them that there is a three minute time limit on speaking.

Brian Brown, Wayne Wilson, Jesse Ketchum, and Tom Ketchum current landlords in the village were all present to voice their concerns with the rental property regulations. All three have issues with the proposal but are willing to work together to make the village better. Each agreed the majority of landlords in town are good and have nice property with a few making it bad on all. They also agreed some of the worst homes in town are not rentals at all but privately owned. Mr. Brown was the first to speak he read a prepared statement that he presented to council with his ideas for the rental property regulations. He mentioned he not against regulations however he would like to see the village and landlords work together to find some kind of middle ground on the regulations being proposed. Wayne Wilson suggested looking int a complaint driven system like Massillon has, where he also owns rentals. The Ketchum’s spoke on sometimes it is the renters who are the problem because they do not tell the landlord when there is an issue. Council woman Temple ask each if they had written leases with their tenants, each responded yes.

Stevie Halverstadt also a landlord in the village spoke in favor of the rental property regulations in the exact format Mayor Wilson is presenting, her husband Kim said he was there with his wife and had nothing else to say.

Mayor Wilson told those in attendance the draft of what he is proposing will be distributed to council during the council of the whole committee Tuesday February 4th at 5:30 pm. Solicitor Beech is currently reviewing the draft. Wayne Wilson ask if he would be able to have a copy when distributed, he wants to be involved in the process as much as possible. The mayor explained during the committee of the whole meeting there is no public participation, this is for council to discuss the proposal. Public participation is for the council meetings.

Traci Dixon responded saying Mayor you always use the phrase this is your village your voice matters, however when these landlords presented their ideas you were coming back with why it will not work that way.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: E LINCOLN WAY/PRITCHARD AVE CROSSWALK UPDATE

The material has been delivered earlier than anticipated and will be installed when the weather permits according to Mayor Wilson.

RE: GRANT ST BRIDGE UPDATE

The second beam was installed this morning once complete both lanes will be open. Construction is still expected to be completed mid-April 2025.

RE: PRITCHARD AVE BRIDGE UPDATE

The engineer has been working with FEMA and the village regarding the relocation of certain utility lines in the area. The mayor being the flood plain director will confirm with those companies and the engineers if the proposed relocations work in the flood plain area. The construction is expected to begin April 2026.

RE: STUDENT COUNCILMEN JOB DESCRIPTION

Council was given in their packets a job description for student councilmen. Council President Hiner suggested to council they consider taking more time to research before moving forward with the program suggesting at the beginning of the next school year. Besides Columbiana she asked the mayor, is there anyone else around us who utilizes student council, at this time. She would also like council to meet with the school to go over their expectations for the program.

Hiner made the motion to table the student councilmen program.
Temple 2nd

Mayor Wilson said he spoke with both Columbiana and the school, Mr. Willard at Columbiana said most of the time the students do not show up to the meetings. The Lisbon teacher he spoke to works with the Student Council and it is her thought to have some of those students involved, Council woman Donnalley ask do we really need five student members. Mayor Wilson would like to see this start before the next school year.

All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: STUDENT INTERN UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported the student intern started last week being both upstairs with him and in the police department. She is who wrote the job description for the student councilmen and is currently researching prices for equipment on the T-Mobile Grant.

RE: RENTAL PROPERTY REGULATIONS UPDATE

Mayor Wilson said he already mentioned during the guest portion of the meeting what he had to say on the rental property regulations. Council President Hiner ask Solicitor Beech to research if council is permitted to not allow any public participation at committee meetings, she realizes when it goes off topic of the committee you are permitted. Solicitor Beech said he would do this for her.

RE: ZONING UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported the final draft has been delivered. The draft came into a file in which it cannot be opened. Ms. Wonner is working with Mr. Black, the county IT Director, to see if the draft can be opened. If not, we will ask for the draft in another format. He will distribute the draft to the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and Council.

RE: CLASS OF 1959 BENCH DONATION

Mayor Wilson showed council a picture of the bench the Class of 1959 would like to donate and place along the walking trail. There was discussion that this bench does not match what is currently in the park, Mayor Wilson said he would look into what is there now. Council man Cox suggested the Parks Committee also look back in the file on what was purchased during the remodel at the pool and park work.

NEW BUSINESS

RE: BOOT ALLOWANCE CEMETERY/STREET/WATER DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Wilson said he has had some maintenance employees who have asked if they could purchase their boots online and be reimbursed or go to another vendor than Sabatini Shoes. After speaking with Ms. Wonner, it was suggested to have the boot allowance be set up just as the full time officer uniform allowance was through payroll.

Hiner made the motion to set up the boot allowance in the current \$150.00 amount in payroll just as the full time officer uniform allowance.

Darcy 2nd All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 2219-2025 – APPROVING THE CODIFICATION OF ORDINANCES AS AN EMERGENCY

Hiner made the motion suspend the rules and regulations to pass an ordinance.

Darcy 2nd All Ayes
Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2219-2025 – Approving the codification of the ordinances as an emergency.

Temple 2nd All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: RESIGNATION GENE KROTKY CEMETERY BOARD

Mayor Wilson ask for a motion to accept the resignation letter presented to council in their packets from Gene Krotky from the Cemetery Board, thanking her for all of her service. Council man Cox ask if she gave a reason saying

it is a shame to lose her. Council President Hiner agreed thanking her for all of her service and dedication over the years.

Temple made the motion to accept the resignation of Gene Krotky from the Cemetery Board effective January 31, 2025.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

Letters of interest will be accepted for two weeks.

RE: 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONFERENCE – REQUIRED STATE TRAINING

Hiner made the motion to approve the Fiscal Officer attending the 2025 Local Government Officials Conference.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT

The following financial statements were distributed to the council in their packets: January month end fund summary. All vouchers were prepared and signed by council prior to the meeting. Ms. Wonner reported that all amended certificates have been received from the county with both 2024 and 2025 having Do Not Exceed. She also requested a transfer from the amount of \$50,000.00 from the General Fund to the Street Fund.

Hiner made the motion to transfer \$50,000.00 from the General Fund to the Street Fund.

Darcy 2nd

All Aye
Motion Passed

MAYOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT

The mayor’s financial report was distributed to council in their packets.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Vehicle and work reports were submitted to council in their packets. Mr. Oliver reported the village has been divided into four quadrants with an employee assigned to each quadrant. The minor issues noted in each quadrant will be fixed immediately and the other will be scheduled.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Hall reported that the department made a total of 305 runs in 2024, 129 Village, 97 Center Township and 79 Elkrun Township. Half of the department completed ice rescue training with the Hanoverton Fire Department and the other half will be going in two weeks. He also has submitted an ODNR grant for training on brush fires, this is more for the townships. He will be bringing quotes to council for at least 8 sets of turn out gear, batteries, and some other safety items.

CEMETERY REPORT

Cemetery Board member Wendell Cole reported the work at the Chapel has been completed. The project stayed within budget.

BPA REPORT

Chairman Bill Hoover reported the board had their reorganizational meeting this evening, he was elected Chair for 2025. During their meeting they discussed the Source Water Protection Team, this is something that prior to COVID the EPA required, with COVID it went on the way side, now the EPA is restarting. The conduit for the booster station has been run. The department has been working on some freezing weather water leaks and preparing for warm weather leaks soon.

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the January 28, 2025, meeting at 7:18 pm.

Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer