

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 10, 2024**

PRESIDING: Wilson

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

ABSENT: Darcy

The regular meeting on December 10, 2024, was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Wilson presiding.

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

MINUTES' REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 26, 2024

Donnalley made the motion to approve the minutes of the 11/26/24 regular meeting

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Hiner made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$16,910.90.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

GUEST (S):

Wayne Wallace was present to discuss his opinion on the rental registry/inspection being proposed by Mayor Wilson, Mr. Wallace owns rentals in the village. He started by saying the village has presented this idea before adopting the ORC guidelines instead of establishing another ordinance, he feels this works well. As a landlord he thinks that another thing the village may do is to require each landlord to distribute this information to their tenants and a signed copy be given to the village for their records. The proposed cost he says will only be passed onto tenants; some already have financial burdens preventing them from being able to afford more costs. He is against any changes to what the village currently has in place. When ask by Council woman Temple on how many rentals he owns, he did not give an exact number.

Mayor Wilson before going to old business read a prepared statement thanks Village Council and employees for work, they have done throughout 2024. He highlighted several projects and financial assistance the village has received from various sources.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: CROSSWALK SIGNAGE E LINCOLN WAY AND PRITCHARD AVE

Mayor Wilson reported that ODOT will be issuing two separate purchase orders, one for the purchase of the equipment and the other for the installation.

RE: GRANT ST BRIDGE UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported weather permitting the second beam is scheduled to be installed January 23, 2025. The bridge is scheduled to be closed between the hours of 7:00 am and 12:00 pm.

RE: MULCH FOR PLAYTOWN

Mayor Wilson stated he feels the area of Playtown is hazard with the tree roots and the mulch needs to be done sooner than later. The mayor said that Mr. Oliver estimated around 280 plus yards of mulch would be needed in Playtown.

Council man Cox ask council to take into consideration any work that may need to be completed at the pool before deciding on having the mulch done at this time. Directing questions to both Sr Plant Operator Chris Peterson and Street Supervisor Jim Oliver on what the plan is on repairing the leak the pool is thought to have. Are you able to know what exactly needs to be done without the camera work completed as asked? Mr. Oliver said he thinks the leak is the old skimmer that is acting like a leach bed, he

believes the cost could be upwards as \$40,000.00. Council woman Temple ask if the splash pad had been winterized yet, to which she was told it has been.

Council President ask if the ground in Playtown was going to be repaired of the tripping hazards before the mulch being put in place. Mayor Wilson indicated the ground work would be completed. Mr. Cox stated that if the project is done properly with ground preparation and material compacting in addition to the village maintaining it as it needs to future mulch would not cost as much.

Sr. Plant Operator after discussing with BPA Chair, Bill Hoover indicated if needed the leak could wait until 2026 if funding were an issue, the safety hazard to children is more of a concern than the leak.

Temple made the motion to approve the quote as submitted by Barnes Tree Service in the amount of \$20,500.00.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: ZONING CODE UPDATE

Mayor Wilson reported that the solicitor, himself, and Fiscal Officer had a zoom meeting with the consultant. The meeting was to discuss the penalty section of the ordinance. The second draft should be ready in about a week, he will distribute to everyone when he receives it.

RE: 2nd READING ORDINANCE NO. 2214-2024 – 2025 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

Hiner made the motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2214-2024, the 2025 annual appropriations.

Smith 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

NEW BUSINESS

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 2215-2024 – 2024 AMENDED ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AS AN EMERGENCY

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

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2215-2024, amended 2024 annual appropriations as an emergency.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 2216-2024 – 2025 TEMPORARY ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AS AN EMERGENCY

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

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2216-2024, the 2025 temporary appropriations as an emergency.

Temple 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: ELECTRIC AGGREGATION LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

In the council packet was information from Trebel energy reporting the village residents who are participating in the village aggregation program have saved over \$147,000.00. They also need a new letter of authorization signed to authorize the village's new agent, Scott Belcastro, to sign general documents like the aggregator's recertification every two years and eligible customer list request.

Donnalley made the motion to sign the new letter of authorization.

Hiner 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: HIRING OF PART TIME POLICE OFFICER – BRADLEY PAWL

Chief Abraham presented an application to council in their packets to hire a part time officer. He would like to have 2-3 part time officers on the roster.

Hiner made the motion to hire Bradley Pawl as a part time officer.

Cox 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: PURCHASE OF 15-40 OIL AND HYDRAULIC FLUID

Street Foreman Oliver presented to council in their packets a quote from Kelly Oil to purchase 2 55 gallon drums of 15-40 oil and 1 55 gallon drum of hydraulic fluid in the amount of \$2,080.00 to split 70/30 with the water department.

Hiner made the motion to approve the purchase as presented.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

RE: OHIO HOUSE BILL 296 – PROPOSED INCREASE TO POLICE AND FIRE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

There was discussion regarding HB 296, the proposed employer increase from 19.25% to 24% over 6 years in Ohio Police and Fire Pension fund. At the moment it is not a big concern, however in the future the increase could be an issue with decisions needing to be made regarding staffing or other budgets items in the village. Fiscal Officer reported she used the current wages in the figures she presented with the increase of 0.75 taking affect July 1, 2025 if passed using the October 2024 retirement report the increase would be an additional \$2,005.86. Council President Hiner urged council members to email Senate members on the future impact this could have on a village of our size.

RE: COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE COMMITTEE MEETING

Council agreed to have a committee of the whole meeting on January 7, 2025 at 5:30 pm. The proposed rental registration/housing inspector and street department procedures will be topics of discussion.

RE: CLASS OF 1959 BENCH DONATION FOR SQUARE

Mayor Wilson reported that he was approached by Bonnie Smith, representing the class of 1959. They would like to donate a bench to be put in the square. Council saw no issue with the donation, the mayor said when they choose the bench, he will show it to council before they purchase.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The following financial statements were distributed to the council in their packets: November bank reconciliation, month end fund summary and December month end fund summary. Ms. Wonner reported the monthly transfer for the 5% income tax collections plus \$7,500.00 for November totaled \$13,394.02. It was reported to council the changes made to the AT&T accounts all, but 2 accounts have either been disconnected or moved to Webex, these changes village wide are estimated to be \$57,000.00 per year. The two lines not switched are the elevator phone line and the non-emergency line at the fire department, however each of these lines have been modified to a better plan. The AT&T U-verse accounts are still in place. She reported the estimated carry over balances as of 12/6/24. The following funds are lower than the estimated carry over when the figures were prepared in July: General, Street, State and Highway, Cemetery Operating, Permissive Motor Vehicle, John Clark, Cemetery Endowment, OPWC Debt, Parking, Swimming Pool, and Sewer New Equipment. The appropriations will need to be adjusted for the third reading of the 2025 annual appropriations unless transfers are made to the allowable funds. The only fund Ms. Wonner suggested making a transfer to at this time was the OPWC fund in the amount of \$2,174.77 the amount of the 2025 payments with the first installment due the beginning of January. She also requested approval for remaining portion of the 2024 match for the Dare fund in the amount of \$2,908.14. Each transfer would be from the General fund.

Hiner made the motion to approve the transfer of \$30,082.91 from the General fund with \$2,174.77 to the OPWC debt fund, \$2,908.14 Dare fund and \$25,000.00 Swimming Pool fund.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes

Motion Passed

Ms. Wonner also reported to council she has been nominated to be 1st Vice President of the Ohio Municipal League Board for 2025 and President in 2026. She thanked council for their support in being on board, saying she is both anxious and excited about this opportunity. Council congratulated her on the nomination. The full board meets Monday December 16th to make the nomination official.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

A vehicle inspection report was included in the council packet.

Council President Hiner had several questions for the street department regarding equipment. She asked about the roller which was discussed in October but never brought back up. The paperwork from Custom Hydraulics estimated repairs to be \$4,775.00 or bring back unassembled the roller for \$150.00, were any decisions made? The unassembled piece of the roller is still at Custom Hydraulics. There was discussion on the quote for a used one in the amount of \$15,000.00 or new estimated to cost between \$30,000.00 and \$40,000.00 from the same meeting. When asked, Mr. Oliver stated his preference would be if the village were to buy a roller would be slightly bigger than the one rented to finish blacktopping but smaller than the one the department currently has. Ms. Hinner also asked why the old bucket truck was being used when before the new one was purchased council was told the old one was unsafe to use and if the windshield had ever been replaced in the new one as approved last year or the new seat covers. The International Bucket truck is not running, there is an issue with the starter and the windshield/seat covers have not been replaced to date. Ms. Hiner also wanted to know if the plows and trucks were ready for the upcoming forecast of snow, Mr. Oliver stated that all trucks and plows had been hooked up and assessed. The plows are not on now because they are taken on and off after each use. Council man Cox stated these are things that should fall under all equipment being maintained and inspected. Ms. Hiner commented on the fact there have not been any street department reports other than a couple vehicle inspections every in the packet since July. Mayor Wilson said the street department always attracts all the attention for work not being done saying do not worry Jim you have my complete backing.

BPA REPORT

Chairman Bill Hoover reported that the Board and Sr Plant Operator Chris Peterson have drafted a sample letter of support for the SR 45/Adams Rd water line extension known as "The Loop" if anyone would like to write a letter of support or know of anyone who would to ask for a copy. The board and few staff will be attending a Cyber Security training by the US EPA on December 18th at 9:00 am in the village. The yearly rate increase of 3% will go into effect January 1, 2025. The 2010 Chevy 1500 has been repaired and back in use. The backhoe is repaired and back in use. Mr. Peterson is continuing to work with the Mental Health Agency on SR 154 on additional fire protection water service.

ZONING APPLICATIONS

The most current approved zoning applications were distributed to the council in their packets.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council President Hiner brought up changing how the \$800.00 uniform allowance is paid for full time officers. Currently each officer is given a blanket purchase order, the invoice is either turned in and paid or the officer is reimbursed. After speaking with the Chief and Fiscal Officer it has been suggested the \$800.00 be paid directly to the full time officer through payroll on a separate non pensionable check.

Hiner made the motion to pay each full time officer the approved uniform allowance through payroll on a separate check that is non pensionable.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE SESSION – COMPENSATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

Temple made the motion to adjourn into executive session for the compensation of a public employee.

Smith 2nd

All Aye with a roll call vote
Motion Passed

The mayor invited Street Supervisor Jim Oliver into the executive session when asked if anyone should be invited.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm for executive session.

Hiner made the motion to reconvene from executive session at 8:30 pm.

Donnalley 2nd

All Ayes with a roll call vote
Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to update the payroll ordinance to reflect the \$2,000.00 per year stipend from the parks department paid to Street Supervisor Jim Oliver be added to the current Street Supervisor of \$55,833.75 for a total salary of \$57,833.75 paid from the street fund.

Cox 2nd

All Ayes
Motion Passed

Mayor Wilson said that from executive session employee evaluations will begin in January .

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Wilson adjourned the December 10, 2024, meeting at 8:34 pm.

Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer