

Hiram Village Council Meeting

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234

April 9, 2024

The following Members of Council were present: Mr. Szell, Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. Bisutti, Mr. McCreight, Mr. Smith and Frato-Sweeny. The following were also present: Mayor Anne Haynam, Village Solicitor Jennifer Berendt, Police Chief Brian Gregory, Fire Chief Bill Byers, Asst. Fire Chief Jason Groselle, Village Administrator Steve Schuller, and Fiscal Officer Susan Skrovan-DeYoung.

The following persons were present: Lisa Muldowney, Middlefield Bank.
Deborah Wordell

Mayor Haynam called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 12, 2024. The minutes were approved by general consent.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve the proposed amended agenda as presented. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Mr. Frato-Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

GUEST AND PUBLIC COMMENT None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

***Police Chief Brian Gregory provided their monthly report.**

Police Chief Gregory provided his report for the month of March. The date for the 2024 Cops Fishing with Kids is set for August 8th.

***Fire Chief Bill Byers provided their monthly report.**

Chief Byers provided his report for the month of March. He also reported the department has been looking for a new vehicle and has decided to stay with a conventional truck with no additional electrical unit. The tornado siren again went off by itself on Thursday, April 4th. The duty crew was able to disconnect the power and disable it. The general consensus of council is to leave it out of service. The public will be notified.

Village Administrator Steve Schuller provided their monthly report.

Steve provide the department's monthly report to council via email. He noted that the new truck has arrived. He also reported on the progress of the driveway storm sewer project and gave an update on the water plant. Next month legislation will need to be considered to ratify VA past actions for the application of a \$715,000 80/20 grant. Brush pick up will begin April 26th and pick up will continue the last Friday of the month April through September. Spring cleanup will be held Saturday, May 18th. Simon Bednarski has acquired his water license. Mr. Smith questions regarding the water tower.

Mayor's April 9, 2024 Report to Council

- Department heads should have their reports ready ahead of time and just have them on hand for questions. Department heads will still need to be present.
- Reports will be uploaded to the website.
- Memorial Day: Jo Cobb is leading on this event. Geraniums will be available for planting. The names of those that lost their lives in while in service will be read.

Mayor's report continued...

- Beautification: The committee will be planting trees.
- Website: The annual cost for the village website upgrade will be \$2,000 annually. Rave notification is also \$2000 annually. Council should move forward with this.
- Village Pass: An article appeared in the Plain Dealer.
- Trail Town: Buckeye Trail, Loop Trail and Garfield Trail
- Revisit the safety contract with the college after graduation.
- Recreation & Parks: Community movie night is scheduled for May 3rd.
- Dog park: 3 locations have been considered. \$3800 is available from the Hiram Community Trust grant. Rec & Parks conducted a survey resulting in approx. a dozen residents in favor a dog park. Discussion followed. Mr. Szell commented this project should be put on the back burner for now. Mr. Frato-Sweeney expressed his concern that there were too many question still to be answered.

***The Fiscal Officer Report: Susan Skrovan-DeYoung presented the monthly financial reports for October.**

Mrs. Skrovan-DeYoung gave her report. **A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. The motion passed 6-0. The bills list was reviewed. A motioned to approve the bills list as presented was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The bills list was approved 6-0.**

The bank reconciliation was reviewed. A motion to accept the bills list as presented was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The

The bank reconciliation was reviewed. A motion to accept the bank reconciliation as presented was made by Mr. Spencer. Seconded by Mr. Szell. The voice vote was 6-0 to approve the motion passed.

Lisa Muldowney of Middlefield Bank was present to discuss the Village's accounts with Middlefield Bank. Currently our account is earning 5.40% and with renewal the bank can guarantee 5.12% for 6 months. The village does have a depository agreement with Middlefield Bank. Our deposits are FDIC insured. Mr. Frato-Sweeney strongly advised to stay with our local bank. The Investment Committee will make the final decision.

HIRAM TOWNSHIP REPORT

No Township report tonight.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES

2024-02: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 303 OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM REGARDING ENFORCEMENT, IMPOUNDING AND PENALTY. 3RD READING. Amend to mention "electronic payments". A motion to amend the legislation was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to accept the legislation as amended was made by Mr. Szell. Seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-04: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 351 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM REGARDING PARKING GENERALLY. 3RD READING. Amend the exhibit to italicize the green text. A motion to approve the legislation was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. McCreight seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-08: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND 2915 FOR THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-09: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2024 ENGERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT. 1ST READING.

2024-10: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS IN SEVERAL FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS

2024-07: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS BY THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE NOPEC SPONSORSHIP GRANT TO BENEFIT THEFOR KIDS AND COPS FISHING PROGRAM. 1ST READING.

2024-08: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SPECIFIC ENUMERATED TRANSFERS BY THE FISCAL OFFICER BETWEEN FUNDS OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM FROM THE GENERAL FUNDS OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. 1ST READING.

2024-09: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT UNDER THE SOUTHERN OHIO CHAMBER ALLIAMCE BNEFIT PLAN (SOCABP), FOR THE ACQUISTION OF MEDICAL INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-10: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT THROUGH THE PUBLIC ENTITIES POOL OF OHIO, TO PURCHASE LIABILITY INSURANC FOR THE VILLGE HIRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation was made by Mr. Frato-Sweeney. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-11: A RESOLUTION IN ACCOUDANCE WITH ORC 3.061, TO ALLOW THE USE OF AN “EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY AND FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF DUTY” COVERAGE DOCUMENT, RATHER THAT A SURETY BOND, TO COVER LOSS BY FRAUDULENT OR DISHONES ACTIONS OF EMPLOYEES AND FAILURE OF EMPLOYEES TO FAITHFULLY PERFORM DUTIES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to amend the legislation by striking “Exhibit A” was made by Mr. Smith. Mr. Szell seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation as amended was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-12: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH UTILITY CONTRACTING, INC, FOR THE CONSTANCE AVENUE LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENT AND GENERATOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM, PORTAGE COUNTY, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. The VA updated the council on the project and short discussion followed. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell. Mrs. Greenwood seconded. The motion passed 6-0. A motion to approve the legislation was made by Mr. Bisutti. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

2024-13: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PAYMENT OF \$34,700.00 TO THE OHIO MUNICIPAL JOINT SELF-INSURANCE POOL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to approve the legislation was made by Mr. Szell. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

OTHER: Deborah Wordell presented on her fiscal efficiency report. Discussion followed.

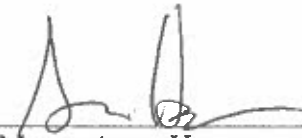
A motion to convene in Executive Session for pending litigation and to discuss personnel at 9:15 pm was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Bisutti. The motion passed 6-0.

A motion to reconvene in Regular Session at 9:58 pm was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve the settlement, in principle, was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mrs. Greenwood. The motion passed 6-0.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. McCreight. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:59 pm.

These minutes are pending approval by Council.



Mayor Anne Haynam

ATTEST:


Fiscal Officer, Susan Skrovan-DeYoung