

**HIRAM VILLAGE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
UNOFFICIAL**

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234
February 11, 2025

- I. Call to Order by Mayor Anne Haynam at 7:00 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - A. Roll Call: Council President Christopher Szell, Ed Frato-Sweeney, David Smith, Christopher Perme, Juan Fernandez
 - Others Present: Mayor Anne Haynam, Solicitor Keith Peterson, Village Administrator Steven Schuller, Fiscal Officer Megan Fogel, Fire Chief Bill Byers, Administrative Assistant Elena Feather-Faber, Andy Leitch, Mark Russell, and Eric Weis
 - Citizens Present: Harold Porter, Suzann Bennett, Harold Porter II, Marissa Devantor, and Judy Macek
- III. Approval of January 14, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes by General Consent.
- IV. Approval of February 11, 2025, Council Meeting Agenda by General Consent.
- V. Public Comment
 - A. None.
- VI. Guest Comment's
 - A. Ms. Macek discussed fines that have been charged to her by RITA and with the help of the Mayor or the Fiscal Officer they will try to find a way to try and solve the issue.
 - B. Mr. Russell from Ellerhorst Insurance discussed the Villages insurance options and what would be best for the Village moving forward. Discussion on obtaining accurate appraisals for all Village property.
- VII. Department Heads Report
 - A. Mayor's Report: *See attached report.*
 - Mayor Haynam discussed the Village becoming a Buckeye Trail Town and requirements to becoming a trail town.
 - Mayor Haynam gave an update on Committees and plans moving forward.
 - B. Village Administrator's Report: *See attached report.*
 - Mr. Schuller spoke on behalf of resident Mr. Harold Porter about changing his property is zoned as so he can apply for an Application for Placement of Farmland in an Agricultural District. Mr. Porter needs current zoning change to open conservancy. Mr. Smith made a motion for approval of the placement of farmland in an agricultural district. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Mr. Schuller discussed the implementation of the MuniLink software.
 - Gave update on the work the Service Department has been doing, i.e., painting, and new flooring in Council chambers and day to day tasks such as plowing.
 - Discussion on Maggie's Donuts and the water drainage issues.
 - C. Safety Service's Report
 1. Fire/EMS Report: Chief Byers discussed the two new Fire Department hires and the recent calls received.

2. Police Report: Chief Gregory discussed recent calls received, discussion on Narcan training, and the Pancake Breakfast. Chief Gregory discussed the new parking ticket software.

D. Financial Report:

1. Mayor Haynam discussed errors that have been found recently and how the Village will be moving forward regarding closing out the books for 2024.
2. Mr. Frato-Sweeney discussed what items he would like to have in the financial report.

VIII. Hiram Township Report

No Township report tonight.

IX. Legislation

A. Ordinances:

1. 0-2025-02: An Ordinance Amending Section 123.01- Posting of Ordinances.
(a) Discussion on why we will be changing our posting locations. 1st Read.

B. Resolutions:

1. 0-2025-04: A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to Enter Into an Agreement With Portage County for the Provision of Dispatching Services to the Village of Hiram Fire Department and Declaring an Emergency. Mr. Szell made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Szell made a motion to approve Resolution 0-2025-04. Mr. Perme seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

X. New Business

- A. Discussion with a representative from Huntington Bank on the benefits of being a Huntington customer.
- B. Discussion on changing Health Insurance plans and what other options are available to the Village.
- C. Discussion on how the Village would like to collect on delinquent RITA accounts within the Village.
- D. Discussion on open council seat. Mr. Sell made a motion to nominate Ms. Suzann Bennett as a new Council Member. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 3-2.

XI. Mr. Szell made a motion to convene the Executive Session for the purpose of personnel issues per ORC 121.22 at 8:31 pm. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Perme made a motion to reconvene in the Regular Session at 8:50 pm. Mr. Szell seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

XII. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 pm. Mr. Szell seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:13 pm.

ATTEST:

Fiscal Officer, Megan Fogel

Mayor Anne Haynam