

Hiram Village Council Meeting

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234

June 11, 2024

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

The following persons were present: Nathaniel Adams, Mitchell Edgecome and Jill Edgecome.

Mayor Haynam called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 14, 2024. The minutes were approved by general consent.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the proposed agenda as presented. The agenda as presented was approved by general consent.

GUEST AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Nathaniel Adams introduced himself; he is the democratic candidate running for state representative.

Mitchell Edgecome passed out paperwork regarding global warming and went over ways he thought everyone could reduce the greenhouse gases and emissions. He would like to see the Village convert all of their equipment and vehicles to zero emissions with electric and requested a list of all vehicles/equipment including make and model numbers.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

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

Police Chief Gregory provided updates since his report was distributed. His department was awarded an \$1,100. Hiram Community Trust grant to be used for community events.

The Mayor added that the company working to set up our speed camera system, Targeting Solutions, has promised a \$2,500. Credit for the delay in getting the system up and running. We should be live later this month.

***Fire Chief Bill Byers provided their monthly report at Finance & Safety.**

Mayor Haynam asked if Bill had anything new to report.

Chief Byers reported on the 4th of July event. The Fire Association was awarded a Hiram Community Trust grant for \$8,700.00 towards the fireworks. They need \$10,000 total and will also receive \$1,000 from a Hiram Township grant.

***Village Administrator Steve Schuller provided their monthly report.**

Steve provided additional information to his report. Summer help has started. The contract with Clearwater will end on July 1st; Simon Bednarski will then be our Assistant Director of Utilities.

Mayor Report June 2024

The Mayor's report was provided in Council folder sent out on Friday. The following were items discussed by Council.

The Mayor brought up the handbook revisions and asked Council for their feedback. The four items in her report to discuss were:

- Sick leave hours to reduce from 5.0 to 4.6 per 80-hour work period.
- Work hours now include a 30-minute paid lunch; the recommendation is to make it unpaid.
- We currently have 13 paid holidays; the recommendation is to reduce that to 11 or 12.
- Eliminate the 16-hours of personal leave.

The Mayor said right now we are generous with our benefits and not so generous with our pay. Council discussed these four items, some of Council were absent tonight and some did not have a chance to fully review the handbook revisions. The Mayor would like to have all input to her on the handbook by Tuesday June 18th.

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

Mrs. Skrovan-DeYoung provided Council with a couple items that needed to be reported since her report was sent out.

There was supposed to be a public hearing tonight regarding the 2025 Budget; however, there was a misunderstanding with the newspaper and subsequently the ad did not get placed in time for the required 10-day notification to the public. Council discussed the options and decided to hold the public hearing on June 25th at 6:00 pm before their Finance & Safety meeting. Susan will send the legal notice out tomorrow.

The Village did receive a refund from Regional Income Tax Agency for 2023's retainer for income tax collections. The refund is the largest we have seen to date at \$9,760.00. We typically pay a 3% retainer fee.

Susan reported to Council on the upcoming webinar and annual RCOG meeting for Regional Income Tax Agency.

Susan informed Council that her office had received an email from the Portage County Auditor's office indicating they can now send tax payments by EFT. We receive property taxes, local government funds and license tax distributions.

A motion to accept the fiscal officer's report was made by Mr. Szell with a second from Mrs. Greenwood. The motion passed 4-0.

The bills list was reviewed. Mr. Szell asked about the Revize bill and how the split was determined. Susan explained the discussion when it was brought up at Finance. The Mayor also noted the plan to cancel the Cintas service. A motion to approve the bills list as presented was made by Mr. Szell with a second from Mrs. Greenwood. The motion passed 4-0.

HIRAM TOWNSHIP REPORT

No Township report tonight.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES

2024-09: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2024 ENGERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT. 3rd READING. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Szell with a second from Mr. Bisutti. The results of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor.

2024-11: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 303 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM REGARDING ENFORCEMENT, IMPOUNDING AND PENALTY. 2nd READING.

2024-12: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 135 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM REGARDING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR. 2nd READING.

2024-15: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 339 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM PROHIBITING THE USE OF ENGINE BRAKES. 1st READING.

Council wondered if this will need to be posted and if so, does it need to be for the whole Village.

2024-16: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE FIVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM RECOGNIZING THE HIRAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY. 1st READING.

2024-17: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1107.11 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM REGARDING THE PENALTIES FOR ZONING VIOLATIONS. 1st READING.

RESOLUTIONS

2024-07: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AND SUBSEQUENT ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS BY THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE NOPEC SPONSORSHIP GRANT TO BENEFIT THE KIDS AND COPS FISHING PROGRAM. 3rd READING. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Szell with a second from Mrs. Greenwood. The result of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor.

2024-08: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPECIFIC ENUMERATED TRANSFERS BY THE FISCAL OFFICER BETWEEN FUNDS OF THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. 3rd READING. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Szell with a second from Mr. Bisutti. The result of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor.

2024-23: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO SUBMIT THE BUDGET TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY AUDITOR. 2nd READING.

2024-24: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT WINTER CONTRACT 2024-2025 FOR ROAD SALT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Council would need to have five members present in order to suspend the rules and pass this tonight. It is on 1st Reading.

2024-25: A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING THE QUESTION OF REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING TAX LEVY FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PURPOSES PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.19(U) AND SECTION 5705.192 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE. 1st READING. Council would like this added to the Special Council meeting agenda for second reading and possible passage for June 25th along with any emergency legislation.

2024-26: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AND SUBSEQUENT ACCEPTANCE OF ODNR GRANT FUNDS BY THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AND RATIFYING PAST ACTIONS WHICH ARE NOW AUTHORIZED BY THIS RESOLUTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Again, without five members of Council present to suspend the rules, this legislation is on 1st Reading.


ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None.

A motion to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of a Solicitor contract amendment per ORC 121.22 at 7:52 pm was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. McCreight. The motion passed 4-0.

A motion to reconvene in Regular Session at 8:05 pm was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mrs. Greenwood. The motion passed 4-0.

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. Bisutti. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

These minutes are pending approval by Council.



Mayor Anne Haynam

ATTEST:

Susan J. Skrovan DeYoung
Fiscal Officer, Susan J. Skrovan-DeYoung