

Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2023

Mayor Mike Petrella called the meeting to Order.

Roll Call: Gael Damron present, Randy Spence present, Carmen DeStefano present, Pennie Scarpone present, Jason Mattern present, Bob Merriman present.

Officials: Mayor Mike Petrella present, Fiscal Officer Denise Geanangel absent, Administrator Jesse Kosegi present, Solicitor Jake Linn present.

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Minutes

Motion by Jason Mattern seconded by Gale Damron to approve the minutes amending in the motion to come out of executive session from the February 2, 2023 meeting.

Vote: Gael Damron yea, Randy Spence yea, Carmen DeStefano yea, Pennie Scarpone yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Guests

Bob DiBeneditto 140 Beechwood Drive, there seems to be a problem with Beechwood Drive and Beechwood Blvd, the mail is getting mixed up, also deliveries are going to the wrong address. Is there anything that can be done.

Jason Mattern said there has been a problem with the GPS. Maybe more signage, possibly check with the post office to see what can be done.

Bob DiBeneditto suggested maybe changing the numbers.

Ordinance and/or Resolution

None

Reports & Announcements and Communications

Thunder in the Ville is June 23rd and 24th 2023 anyone wanting to get involved contact Tammy Straka at 740-266-3175.

Village Offices and Public Works will be closed on Monday February 20, 2023 for President's Day. Business garbage route will be on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Congratulation to Indian Creek Girls Basketball 4 A OVAC Champions.

Water Supervisor George Kovach, stated that he is learning and trying to get caught up to speed on everything.

Jason Mattern asked if there has been any communication from the County on the water with regards to the train derailment.

Mayor Petrella stated that he had a whole section on that in his report.

Sewer Supervisor Teddy Chuich, the Village has 13 lift station which are check weekly and maintained. Come Spring we will be doing a preventive maintenance plan. We needed to order a check valve for the auger. We are doing bell pressing which gets sludge out of the plant. We are to get 50 dry tons per year we will meet that by the end of the year.

Teddy Chuich also would like to recognize the one's that are not here Allan Valkosky and Steven Brozka they go above and beyond what I asked them to do.

I have been here 13 years and I want to thank Council and the Mayor.

Sanitation Supervisor Bob Arnold, Thank you for the position and the changes.

Street Supervisor Randy Baksa I have been here since last March, the EOCC program and the prisoner was great to have the help. The maintenance program needed to be done on the vehicles and machinery a lot of this work was done in house. We all work together as team. He thanked Council and the Mayor for supporting us it means a lot.

Police Chief Lou Vandeborne, last Council meeting the Mayor swore in a new officer we are now up to full staff. The new nuisance officer is making out some new forms to send out to residents for nuisance violations. Lt. Gegic is taking inventory on the signs that will be needed throughout the village such as speed limit sign and no parking signs.

Charlene Prentice stated that Bob and I are glad that Wintersville appointed us to the STRVA it is a great organization, they have expanded from this time last year until now they have 80% more.

Dr. Pennie Scarpone asked Charlene Prentice if it would be beneficial to put some of the beautification benches at the STRVA stops.

Charlene Prentice stated she will check at the next STRAV meeting.

Mayor Report

Mayor Petrella appointed George Kovach on February 6, 2023 as new Water Foreman.

The Village Fiscal Officer Denise Geanangel submitted her 2 week notice on February 6, 2023 at 11:30 AM. Her last day will be February 20, 2023.

Motion by Randy Spence second by Dr. Pennie Scarpone to accept Denise Geanangel resignation.

Vote: Gael Damron yea, Randy Spence yea, Carmen DeStefano yea, Pennie Scarpone yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

The Administrator will be putting an ad in the paper of the Fiscal Officer position.

The Administrator stated that in the packets was a contract for a visiting clerk. He spoke with the Auditor's office and we were given a list of people that will come in when you lose a fiscal officer. We were contacted by 2 visiting clerks. Melanie Smith has been with the auditor for 20 years she goes around to help Villages and has been doing this for 40 years, she will be here on Wednesday the 22nd.

The Mayor stated she will also be able to train the new fiscal officer and anyone on Council and anyone who wants to cross train. Her rate is \$39.00 per hour and .55 cents in mileage.

Jason Mattern asked that the contract run through June 30 then it will be by the month as needed.

Randy Spence asked how long the ad for the fiscal officer will run.

Mayor stated 2 weeks until March 3, as we receive resumes we will do interviews.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Bob Merriman to accept the visiting clerks rate of \$39.00 per hour and .55 cents per mile.

Vote: Gael Damron yea, Randy Spence yea, Carmen DeStefano yea, Pennie Scarpone yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Petrella stated he'd like to suggest that 2 people sign the check they come from the Village.

The Mayor gave Council the updated list of 2022 water breaks. The Administrator and the Mayor talked about updating the water lines.

Dr. Scarpone asked if we are keeping track of when we repair the lines and when we contract them out.

Mayor Petrella yes it is very easy to do.

Randy Spence stated that we were in the process of getting a grant for the water lines but we didn't get it, are we going to pursue that.

Mayor Petrella thank all the department for coming to the meeting and we appreciate it very much.

Mayor Petrella updated everyone on the water. The Village buys water our water from Jefferson County Water and they get their water from the City of Toronto. We have been in contact with Jefferson County Water and Toronto Water Department and also the County Commissioners with regards with the leak into the water system. We have been told it has not impacted us. Toronto's water system is very up to date compared to other places that intake water. They did have a small detection, it was less than 1 part per billion. We are being told that the water is safe if anything changes we will update everyone.

Jason Mattern stated that open communication with the entities involved and is very helpful to keep the residents up to date.

Mayor Petrella stated that is will be posted on social media or you can call the office.

Jason Mattern asked which web site should the residents check for updates.

Mayor suggested that people check his web site which is Mayor Petrella or News from Wintersville.

Gael Damron stated they had on the news that Toronto is on the most state of the arts water treatment plant and they have already started filtering.

Mayor Petrella said they have a new carbon filter that is very up to date.

Jason Mattern stated that the carbon is a filtering system and the chlorine is a disinfect.

Mayor Petrella asked that everyone keep East Palestine in our prayer regarding the tragedy that has happened.

Administrator's Report:

Administrator Kosegi stated that his first day was February 6th and he held a Village wide meeting, we went over what each department expected from each other. He later went to the Police Department and talked with them and later in the day he talked to everyone in the water department.

There will be a meeting with W.E. Quicksall next week. We will meet with them on February 23rd regarding upcoming projects Moon Valley, Rex Ave. and Russell. He also talked with Core and Main. We are on the priority list since we are replacing the whole village. There is no set date yet.

We have renewed our cyber liability with McBane.

There will be a meeting with the Sanitation, Sewer and Street Supervisor every Monday morning.

The new car wash is getting ready to hook up when I get more information I will let you know.

Gabe Craig who does our Water testing advised us that EPA is requiring all businesses and residents by a questionnaire to fill out regarding lead line testing. It will want to know the address, pipe system, tap from meter to house and when the house was built, that is due 2024.

The Administrator has started working on 2023 J. B. Green recycling fund program. This is due April 3 at Noon and we are going to apply again.

Also I have given you a make shift time sheet. I will give that to you every Council meeting or once a month.

Jason Mattern asked if bulk pick up going to remain the same.

Mayor Petrella yes we are keeping it the same.

Unfinished business

None.

New Business

Gael Damron stated it is great to hear from all the department and that they all are working together.

The Beautification committee is looking to obtain more benches and trash cans. We are continuing with the Veteran banners. Also flag banners and Indian Creek Banners the next meeting will be February 21st at 6:00 PM at Indian Creek High School to see what project they have come up with for the wall. We still have some pending project such as a Community Garden and a digital sign.

Gael Damron explained what was discussed at the Finance meeting including accrued leave, referral bonus, Jake Linn's Contract, George Kovach and 2 signatures on fiscal account.

Carmen DeStefano asked if there was any information on the CD's.

Bob Merriman stated that Jesse Kosegi called the bank and they are to call him back.

Jason Mattern thanked Jesses Kosegi for his excitement and dedication. He also asked where are the minutes on the web.

Mayor Petrella stated that they are on Wintersville.net

Jason Mattern asked if Council could get texts regarding water break also meeting with Mayor, Administrator and supervisor's.

Randy Spence stated please come to the council meeting if you have any question.

Jesse Kosegi stated that the Police Department uses a Crew app if Council would like to be included in that.

Dr. Pennie Scarpone asked if they have found the missing phones.

Captain J, Fabian stated that there are still phones missing.

Gael Damron asked if we have a list who we issued them too.

Dr. Pennie Scarpone stated that we need to check into the Beechwood Drive and Beechwood Blvd. issue.

Gael Damron asked if it would be better to just change the name on one of the streets.

Transfers/Advance:

None

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Dr. Pennie Scarpone to approve bills.

Vote: Gael Damron yea, Randy Spence yea, Carmen DeStefano yea, Pennie Scarpone yea, Jason Mattern yea, Bob Merriman yea.

Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Gale Damron, second by Jason Mattern to adjourn.

Next scheduled Meeting is March 2, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Disclaimer: These are a draft of the minutes and not deemed official until approved by Council.

Denise Geanangel
Fiscal Officer

Michael W. Petrella
Mayor