

Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mayor Mike Petrella called the meeting to Order.

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

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

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Minutes

Can I get a motion to appoint myself Randy Spence as administrator and or clerk for this meeting?

Motion by Gael Damron, second by Carmen DeStefano to appoint Randy Spence Clerk for this meeting.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Carmen DeStefano to approve the minutes for the January 18, 2024 Council Meeting.

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

Motion passed 4-0 with 1 abstain.

Guests

Brian Moffitt: Is there anything that the Village can do regarding the new car wash by Dunkin Doughnut turning left up the hill? Maybe putting signage "No left turn, right turn only" to avoid accident.

Mayor Petrella: Chief do you have anything on this?

Chief Vandeborne: I am waiting to hear back from the State. I have to get an opinion on that. I will let you know.

Randy Spence: Can we call the business and have them put up a sign "No left turn".

Chief Vandeborne: We can request that. They are very busy and cars are backing up on Main Street.

Mayor Petrella: Thank You Chief and Mr. Moffitt.

Randy Spence: Council Re-Organization – 2024 Committee Members, let me know if we need to change any members.

Ordinance and/or Resolution

Ordinance 2024-01: An Ordinance Providing for an Advance from the Capital Projects-Muni Tax Fund (4901) to the General Fund (1000) and the Police Levy Fund (2902) for the Village of Wintersville for the Calendar Year 2024 and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Gael Damron to suspend the rules on the second and third reading of Ordinance 2024-01.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Carmen DeStefano, second by Jason Mattern to approve Ordinance 2024-01.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Resolution 2024-02: A Resolution Providing for Transfer and Establishing Estimated Revenue for the Village of Wintersville for the Calendar Year 2024 and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion by Carmen DeStefano, second by Jason Mattern to suspend the rules on the second and third reading of Resolution 2024-02.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Gael Damron to approve Resolution 2024-02.

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

Motion passed 5-0

Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance Providing for amending and revising the Appropriations of Expenditures for the Village of Wintersville for the Calendar Year 2024 and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Gael Damron to suspend the rules on the second and third readings of Ordinance 2024-03.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Carmen DeStefano to approve Ordinance 2024-03.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance Providing a Retroactive pay increase for an Employee in the Village of Wintersville.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Jason Mattern to suspend the rules on the second and third readings of Ordinance 2024-04.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Jason Mattern, second by Gael Damron to approve Ordinance 2024-04.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance providing for a pay reduction for an Employee in the Village of Wintersville.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Jason Mattern to suspend the rules on the second and third readings of Ordinance 2024-05.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Carmen DeStefano, second by Jason Mattern to approve Ordinance 2024-05.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance amending Village Ordinance 2023-63 to remove Authorization to Auction a certain Dump Truck Vehicle and Declaring and Emergency.

Motion by Jason Mattern, second by Bob Merriman to suspend the rules on the second and third readings of Ordinance 2024-06.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Carmen DeStefano, second by Jason Mattern to approve Ordinance 2024-06.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-07: An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to dispose of Personal Property on the Village of Wintersville, Ohio, to Wit, a Dump Truck and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Jason Mattern to suspend the rules on the second and third readings of Ordinance 2024-07.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Carmen DeStefano, second by Bob Merriman to approve Ordinance 2024-07.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Announcements

None.

Reports and Communications

Mayor Petrella read the Magistrate report Police Report, Code Enforcement Officers Report and updated list for all the nuisance calls for the Month of January 2024.

Charlene Prentice: SVRTA – working on getting electronic boxes for the buses. Bus passes are selling great.

Congratulation Mayor.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Petrella: I want to Thank Council, Jesse, and the Village for helping out while I was off with my wife and our new born the last few weeks. It was much appreciated.

I would like to wish Indian Creek Girls Basketball team good luck on Saturday at the OVAC Finals.

Thanks to Halo Salon on their new location.

Thank you to Joel John for donating all the Christmas Decorations on the building to the Village.

Welcome Jefferson County Court #2, Judge Bednar and his staff to the Village at of old Oliver Pool building. Monday will be their first court date in their new location.

Council I did put in your packets a copy of a letter I sent to the State Auditors after our audit was done requesting that we go to a bi-annual audit verses yearly to help save tax money. We have also requested a new Audit Manager.

The Yearly Jefferson County Planning Commission appointment is Randy Spence as primary and Carmen DeStefano is the alternate.

I want to thank Dr. Scarpone for being our representative for the Jefferson County Health District.

D & L construction are going to start February 5, if all the parts come in on the catch basin by Lightning Lizard so we will be down to one lane there.

Council I have been doing some calculations on the tonnage of trash per year to have it hauled out. Unfortunately we are going to have to raise the trash. I will have those calculations at the next finance meeting or next Council Meeting.

Administrator's Report

Jess Kosegi: Closed the 2023 J. B. Green Grant sent in oh the 31st. The 2024 is open so I will fill that out. We will do trash receptacles, in the 2025 grant we might do something for the dog park.

I forgot at the last meeting to thank Jason Mattern, he dropped off a gift card to Holly for all she did on the Christmas lights. Thank You it was very much appreciated.

Water Meter Project: we are down to 454 meter out of 1800. We are going to send out a reminder cards tomorrow. We are going to send these out monthly. A Lot is the business but some of those meters weren't in the bid, so we will have to order them. Residences we can work around your work schedule to get these done.

Fuel Tank Project: The Company that was going to put in I haven't heard from them. Fuel Tech out of St. Clairsville came up and looked at it. I had to talk to the Fire Marshall, we have to add a fence and pylons. I filed permits, permits for the new diesel tank and new gas tank , a permit for the removal of the old fuel tank which Riley's is going to remove that.

USDA Grant: \$57,000 was allocated had not been spent, when I took over the grant it was \$7,000. I had to do an adjustment for equipment for the salt spreader for the plow truck. It was chain driven they wanted and Auger, that was \$500.00 difference. I put in for a new police car, just the car and an arrow board. I sent a 3 page letter to USDA on what I wanted to do and what happened. I should know something in the next few days.

Web site: Captain Fabian is working on it, it's about done.

Facebook Page: Still working on it. It will be no comments only informational.

Dog Park Bids: We need to make a decision tonight. I talked with Jake Linn, the Solicitor and Matt from Quicksall. It was Border Patrol that made the mistake not Quicksall.

Randy Spence: So we need a motion to accept the lowest bid.

Jesse Kosegi: The Lowest Bid was Sweet Meadow Farms at \$168,249.65 out of 11 people.

Randy Spence: Number one was Sweet Meadow Farms at \$168,249.65, number 2 was Double D Construction at \$183,808.00 and number 3 was Fort Steuben Maintenance at \$190,280.00.

Jason Mattern: Jesse have you worked with any of these guys.

Jesse Kosegi: Sweet Meadow Farms No. James White Construction yes, and Fort Steuben Maintenance yes. They are all insured and bonded.

Carmen DeStefano: So if they hadn't made the clerical error they would have been the lowest bid.

Jesse Kosegi: No. Border Patrol was \$222,909.00.

Jason Mattern: We have always gone with the lowest bid.

Bob Merriman: Has Quicksall worked with Sweet Meadow Farms.

Jesse Kosegi: Yes.

Motion by Jason Mattern, second by Bob Merriman to accept the bid from Sweet Meadow Farms at \$168,249.65 for the Village of Wintersville's Dog Park.

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

Motion passed 5-0

Unfinished Business

Randy Spence: I would like to make a comment on the water meters, this is bringing transparency to the Village from Council, I spoke with Teddy Chuich and George Kovach since this project has started there have been 10 locations in the Village where the water meters were pulled and a straight pipe was put in. This was all done in December 2022 except for 1. From what I understand these homes were given an average. We don't know how much they've used because they went from December 2022 to January 2024. But all the meters except 2 of them have had new meters installed and the other 2 meters are being ordered. Don't know why it happened or what was going on. The message on the work order stated pulled meter due to leaking, installed straight pipe. Those have all been taken care of.

Jesse Kosegi: A Lot of it was post COVID, when you couldn't get meter. When I came here about a year ago someone asked about a meter. I asked George Kovach do we have any meters, he said I have one. We now have a lot, hopefully we will sell these meters.

Jason Mattern: Did you run into where one meter was feeding 2 residences.

Jesse Kosegi: Yes and No. You have a duplex where there is 2 meters in one basement that one is for 1 duplex and the other is for the other duplex. Some people have their water meters inside the walls. You have to be able to get to these meters incase something happens to the meter. We have to have access to the meters.

New Business

Carmen DeStefano: A resident from Beechwood is complaining that the Village is not emptying the trash cans completely.

Mayor Petrella: Get me the address.

Carmen DeStefano: 263 Beechwood Blvd.

Mayor Petrella: We will take care of it.

Carmen DeStefano: Maybe this year we can put some new trees in the parks.

Jesse Kosegi: I talked with a gentleman from La Roche Tree Service, we need to get some trees cut down on some easements.

Jason Mattern: Thank you Jesse on this new Code Enforcement list, and for getting things done right away. Also a chunk of road came up on Meadow Road, Jesse had the guys go pick it up.

Transfers

None.

Motion by Jason Mattern, second by Carmen DeStefano to pay bills.

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

Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Randy Spence, second by Jason Mattern to adjourn.

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

Motion passed 5-0

Next Council meeting will be February 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

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

Randy Spence
Council President

Mike Petrella
Mayor