

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Orwell Village Council

REGULAR Meeting

Date: June 20, 2023

Council President Ruks called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Clerk Kimberly McKinley performed roll call and the following council members were present: Mr. Cottrell, Ms. Cozad, Mr. Hartz, and Mr. Ruks. Absent: Mr. Denihan.

Others Present: Solicitor Cris Newcomb, Village Manager Tami Pentek, Police Chief Chad Fernandez, and Supervisor Shane Gregory.

Agenda:

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to accept the agenda, The motion passed with all in favor.

Public: Gabriel McVey (Gazette) and Warren Dillaway (Star Beacon)

Minutes:

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on May 16, 2023. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on May 23, 2023. The motion passed with all in favor.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on June 1, 2023. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes for the work session held on June 13, 2023. The motion passed with all in favor.

Bills:

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to approve the payment of bills. The motion passed with all in favor.

SCAD: Mr. Hartz provided a summary of his written report for a meeting held on June 12, 2023. Next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2023.

Council President Ruks turned the meeting over to Village Manager Tami Pentek for departmental reports.

Streets/Lands & Buildings

Mrs. Pentek provided a summary of her written report. Kings started camera work on the storm drains; video is on flash drive.

Ms. Cozad commented on the overgrown grass at Dollar General. Mrs. Pentek said this is an annual issue. Store employees have no control over the situation. Property owners receive notices every year.

Water/ Sewer:

Mrs. Pentek provided a summary of her written report. A leaking waterline in the ceiling at WWTP office has been repaired. Work on sand filter #2 is scheduled to begin this month.

Police Department:

Mrs. Pentek provided a summary of her written report. Chief Fernandez reported that the new police cruiser would be delivered within the week. Another applicant for the police department has been interviewed; prior experience included dispatch for Ashtabula City and for Lake Erie Corrections. Mrs. Pentek reported that she will be holding another meeting between prospective IT consultants and Chief Fernandez next week.

Fire Department:

Mrs. Pentek provided a summary of her written report. The hot sticks are still on backorder. Ms. Cozad wanted to know if the department has looked at other vendors. Engine 332 will have maintenance work once repairs on Ladder 331 are complete. Mr. Hartz reported that the gas tank for the Honda generator is on backorder.

Park and Recreation

No report

Zoning:

Mr. Gregory provided a summary of his written report. He informed the property owner that the new drive will need to be paved within one year. He has not talked to the owner of End of Time regarding deck, however, village received payment on delinquent water bill. Solicitor Newcomb recommended mailing letters by both certified and regular mail.

Solicitor's report:

Mr. Newcomb inquired if the council had any questions on resolutions included on the agenda.

Finance Report:

Ms. McKinley provided a summary of her written report.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cotteell, to approve the finance report. The motion passed with all in favor.

Old Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 23-06-01R: A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED REQUESTING SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE §5705.03, §5705.19, §5705.191, §5705.25 and §5705.26 TO REPLACE AN EXISTING .5 MILL TAX LEVY FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. The motion passed with all in favor. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 23-06-01R.

Vote: Mr. Hartz – yea, Mr. Ruks-yea, Mr. Cottrell-yea, Ms. Cozad-yea.

Vote: 4 yeas – 0 nays

Resolution 23-06-01R passed

RESOLUTION NO. 23-06-02R: AN RESOLUTION APPOINTING MICHAEL RICHTER TO THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A FULL-TIME OFFICER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to pass as an emergency. The motion passed with all in favor. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 23-06-02R.

Vote: Mr. Cottrell-yea, Ms. Cozad-yea, Mr. Hartz – yea, Mr. Ruks-yea.

Vote: 4 yeas – 0 nays

Resolution 23-06-02R passed

Mrs. Pentek sworn in Officer Richter. Chief Fernandez has received compliments from the community on Officer Richter's interaction with the public.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-06-03R: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL TAX BUDGET, INCLUDING ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES, FOR TAX YEAR 2024 ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ASHTABULA COUNTY AUDITOR AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three reading rule. The motion passed with all in favor. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruks, to pass Resolution 23-06-03R.

Vote: Mr. Hartz – yea, Mr. Ruks-yea, Mr. Cottrell-yea, Ms. Cozad-yea.

Vote: 4 yeas – 0 nays

Resolution 23-06-03R passed

New Business:

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to go into executive session with Mr. Gregory and Solicitor Newcomb to discuss personnel and employee compensation. The motion passed with all in favor. President Ruks said he would notify press if there was any action taken.

Executive Session 5:05 p.m.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to exit the executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session Exit at 5:50 p.m.

Mr. Ruks directed Mrs. Pentek to advertise for a part-time zoning inspector for thirty days. Salary would be 10k-15k per year. Mrs. Pentek reviewed the job description with council members. Duties will include general code enforcement. The individual would need to be comfortable with making recommendations to Planning Commission and BZA. Solicitor Newcomb added that junk motor vehicles fall under law enforcement; police should issue citations. Other junk including vehicle parts and high grass may be handled by inspector.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruks, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all in favor.

Council President Ruks adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Approved:

July 18, 2023



President of Council



Clerk of Council



Village Manager