

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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**Orwell Village Council**

**REGULAR Meeting**

**Date: September 17, 2024**

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

**Roll Call:** Clerk-Finance Director Kim McKinley performed roll call and the following council members were present: Mr. Cottrell, Ms. Cozad, Mr. Denihan, Mr. Hartz, and Mr. Ruks.

Others Present: Solicitor Cris Newcomb and Village Manager Tami Pentek. Fire Chief Merlino.

**Agenda:** Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cotrell, to accept the agenda. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad – yea, Denihan – yea, Hartz-yea, Ruk-yea, Cottrell – yea. Motion passed.

**Public:** Bill Nye, GVLSD Superintendent, Corrine Schoren, Gazette and Warren Dillaway, Star Beacon.

Mr. Nye wanted to inform the public that Grand Valley Local School District will have a renewal of an existing 1.55 mill general permanent improvements renewal levy on the November 5, 2024, ballot. The levy will be for a five-year period and generates approximately \$130k per year. Monies generated could go towards items such as replacement of HVAC system, asphalt, doors, and new buses. No money will be used towards salaries.

The school installed new artificial turf field this summer. The field will be used by the football and soccer teams. The cost was 1.1 million dollars. With help from a grant, the school financed \$600,000 for ten years. The lifespan is about 13 years. Mr. Nye expects to receive annual sponsorships exceeding 50k. This money will be put aside for when it is time to replace the turf. The athletic boosters receive the monies generated from the concessions. Securing tournament games will help generate income.

School attendance was at 800 pupils in 2023. In 2008, the school district has 1420 students. There are three teachers per grade level down from five. He plans on approaching the Amish community about providing teachers for their school or providing separate busing for the kids.

**Minutes:** Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on August 20, 2024. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan – yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Mr. Cottrell - yea, Ms. Cozad-yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to approve the minutes from the work session held on September 10, 2024. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Mr. Cottrell - yea, Ms. Cozad-yea, Denihan - yea. Motion passed.

**Bills:** Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the payment of bills. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Mr. Cottrell - yea, Ms. Cozad-yea Denihan – yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed.

**SCAD:** Mr. Hartz read his written report, provided to council, at a meeting held on September 17, 2024. Report includes monthly financial information and call numbers. Ohio History Commission has approved records disposal. Ohio EMS grant has been received in the amount of \$4,667. Next meeting scheduled for October 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

**Streets/Lands & Buildings:** Mrs. Pentek received letter from the Ashtabula Co. Engineer indicating that the District 7 Committee has recommended the pre-application for Penniman Rd be submitted as a final application to OPWC. Legislation will be required in October. Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. The storm ditch across from Grand Valley Schools has been successfully jetted to remove obstruction. The crack sealing of streets has begun. The street improvements for Sunrise Acres and Leffingwell have started is about 50% complete. Drainage work, new light fixtures in basement and hot water tank maintenance was completed at Adm Bldg.

**Water/ Sewer:** Mrs. Pentek provided an update on the Water Tower project. PVR Vault #1 and #2 have been tied into main. PVR#3 retrofit, consisting of insert-a-valves, has been cut in on SR322 (where the steel plate is on road).

The clarifier pump at the WWTP has been replaced by UIC; additional pump needs to be installed. A new pump from HPT has been received and two other pumps onsite have been picked up by ERT (Electrical Repair Technologies) to see if pumps can be repaired. Mrs. Pentek has requested a quote to replace control panel. The control panel is meant to allow automatic rotation between two pumps; however, rotation must be done manually because old panel is not functioning properly.

The project at the Iron Plant was about 60% complete in August. UIC is installing an additional check valve not part of the original scope.

Mrs. Pentek received a quote from UIC to replace or repair fire hydrants for 22k. UIC is licensed and insured.

**Police Department:** Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Ms. Cozad read a letter to the editor of the Star Beacon commending the efforts of Sergeant Bonfield.

**Fire Department:** Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. There was a large number of calls in August due to storm damage. All vehicles are scheduled for preventative maintenance and SCBA annual test will be completed this month. Chief Merlino said department will schedule CPA training with SCAD.

**Park and Recreation:** None

**Planning & Zoning Commission:** None

Mrs. Pentek requested the word get out about volunteers, who need to be electors of the village, are needed to sit on the Charter Review Board with hopes of having board in place before end of year.

**Solicitor's report:** Solicitor Newcomb explained that it is important for a charter review committee to be formed to review the current charter; changes may not be necessary. Any proposed amendments must be presented to Board of Elections in early August. However, Solicitor Newcomb encourages any changes be presented much earlier for review by BOE and SOS.

**Finance Report:** Ms. McKinley informed council that two levies expire in 2025. This process should start early, each levy would require two pieces of legislation. Ms. McKinley provided a summary of the submitted August reports. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to approve the finance report. The motion passed with all in favor.

**Zoning:** Written report included permits issued and violation notices for August was provided. Solicitor Newcomb reported that he attended a court hearing along with Mr. Bellas. All parties had a highly active discussion; hope to have positive results.

**Old Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-08-02R:** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE GRANT AGREEMENT AND AWARD FROM THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OEPA) UNDER THE DIVISION OF DRINKING AND GROUND WATERS (DDAGW) FOR WELL ABANDONMENT GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$37,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 24-08-02R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-08-03R:** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL AND GREATWAVE COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF ONGOING TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, COMPUTERS, SERVERS, HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE AND THE LIKE FOR ANY AND ALL VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruks, to waive the three reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to pass Resolution 24-08-03R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-01R:** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2025 OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF ESTIMATED RESOURCES FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 24-09-01R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-02R:** A RESOLUTION AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to waive the three reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 24-09-02R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

**New Business:** None

**Public:** None

**Media:** Mr. Dillaway requested clarification on wellfield abandonment. The six wellfields are located at the Iron Plant and are no longer in use; abandonments required by EPA. Newer, deeper wellfields have taken their place. IT contract is a renewal contract with Great Wave Communications.

**Executive Session:**


Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to go into executive session with Solicitor Newcomb to discuss hiring, compensation, or discipline of a public employee, with no action to follow. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed. Council entered executive session at 5:30. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to adjourn executive session. Motion carried. Council exited executive session at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to adjourn. Motion carried. Mr. Ruks adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**Approved:**

October 15, 2024

  
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President of Council

  
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Clerk of Council

  
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Village Manager