

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Orwell Village Council

REGULAR Meeting

Date: January 21, 2025

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, and Mr. Ruks. Mr. Hartz was absent.

Others Present: Solicitor Cris Newcomb and Village Manager Tami Pentek. Zoning Inspector Bellas arrived at 4:50 p.m.

Agenda: Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to amend agenda to allow an executive session after SCAD report and before departmental reports. Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks - yea, Cottrell – yea, Cozad – yea and Denihan – yea. Motion passed.

Public: Dylan Crowell, Gazette and Warren Dillaway, Star Beacon.

Minutes: Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on December 17, 2024. Roll call, 4 yeas: Denihan - yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad - yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Cottrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan to approve the minutes from the organization meeting held on January 2, 2025. Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yes, Denihan – yea. Motion passed.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes from the work session held on January 14, 2025. Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yes, Denihan – yea. Motion passed.

Bills: Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the payment of bills. Roll call, 4 yeas: Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yea, Denihan - yea, Ruks - yea. Motion passed.

SCAD: Mr. Denihan read his written report, provided to council, on a meeting held on January 13, 2025. Report includes monthly financial information and call numbers. SCAD is receiving estimates for new furnace. CPR classes are in demand. Next meeting scheduled for February 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session:

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to go into executive session with Solicitor Newcomb for the purpose hiring and dismissal of employee and to return thereafter. Roll call, 4 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed. Council entered executive session at 4:36 p.m. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to adjourn executive session. Motion carried. Council exited executed session at 5:07 p.m.

Streets/Lands & Buildings: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided council. The department order 23 tons of salt in December and an additional 50 tons this month.

Water/ Sewer: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Wellfield abandonment is scheduled to begin next week.

Police Department: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Officer Cole on leave for 90 days for military training. Sgt. Bonfield will be completing range qualification instructor training next week.

Fire Department: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Annual call numbers were provided. Joint training to begin 1/25/25.

Park and Recreation: None

Planning & Zoning Commission: None

Solicitor's report: The four zoning amendments may be moved to second reading and a public meeting should be scheduled. AT&T filed a proposed tariff request with the PUCO that would require any governmental entity requesting the relocation and undergrounding of communications facilities existing in a public right of way to pay the cost incurred by AT&T for such a relocation. AT&T did this on purpose so the small municipalities that only have one meeting a month have trouble getting together legislation to oppose. AT&T withdrew its request; however, it has been indicated that AT&T will refile request. OML has advised future support from village may be necessary.

Finance Report: Ms. McKinley provided a summary of the submitted December reports. In addition, she provided a spreadsheet on the financial status for 2025, assuming revenues and expenditures remain on target. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the finance report. The motion passed with all in favor.

Zoning: Mr. Bellas provided a written report for the month of December. Courtesy notices are sent prior to a violation notice. In addition, Mr. Bellas plans to update zoning application requesting additional information. Mr. Bellas is completing a comprehensive plan and would like any anecdotes, newspaper stories or other information documenting the history of the village. Regarding zoning legislation Section 6.02 signs are not allowed in right-of-way nor should they obstruct right-of-way. This legislation in 6.02(C) (10) lays out the process to remove signs. The change in Section 4.06(A) is to be consistent to Section 7.02, Section 9:03(B) lays out the appeal procedures and Section 14.02 includes the definition of an addition.

Old Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-01R: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL AND CT CONSULTANTS, A VERDANTAS CO. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PENNIMAN ROAD PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 4 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 25-01-01RR. Roll Call, 4 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-02: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VI: SIGNS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-03: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV: DIMENSIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-04: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IX: ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-05: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XIV: DEFINITIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to schedule and post a thirty-day notice of a public meeting for March 11, 2025 at 4:15 p.m. to discuss the proposed zoning changes. Roll call, 4 yeas: Denihan - yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad - yes. Motion passed.

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 25-01-06R: A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL SUPPORTING THE OHIO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE'S CHALLENGE OF AT&T'S TARIFF APPLICATION AT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Ordinance 25-01-06R. Roll Call, 4 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Cottrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to appoint Shane Gregory liaison to the fire department for the purpose of purchase and maintenance of equipment and does not include fire runs. Roll Call, 4 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Ruks made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad to increase Shane Gregory's salary to \$54,000 retroactive to January 6, 2025. Roll Call, 4 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Ruks made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad to non-renew or non-negotiate village managers contract. Roll call, 4 yeas: Denihan - yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad - yes. Motion passed.

Public: None

Media: Mr. Dillaway requested clarification on not renewing village manager contract. Solicitor Newcomb explained that Mrs. Pentek's contract expires at the end of February. Per contract, council is giving notice that they are not renewing contract and position will be posted. Mr. Ruks thanked Mrs. Pentek on her efforts working on behalf of the village and residents and wished her well in the future.

Executive Session: None

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad to adjourn the meeting. Roll call, 4 yeas: Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yes, Denihan – yea. Meeting adjourned 5:38 p.m.

Approved:

2/18/2025



President of Council



Clerk of Council



Village Manager