

VILLAGE OF HAMERSVILLE
Village Council Meeting
JUNE 24, 2024

The Council of the Village of Hamersville met in regular session at the Village Municipal Building on June 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Members present were **Beverly Coomer, Don Wilson, Jr., Dale Owsley, Melanie Trumble, and Jerry Seibert**. Also present were: Mayor Justin Jones, Police Chief/Village Administrator Guy Sutton, Travis Stone, Police Officer, and Jayme Eldridge, Fiscal Officer.

Residents: Ryan Craig with Adams Brown Mobility Management, Judy, Nye, Bible Chapel UCC, Tammy Keller, Bev Smallwood

The meeting was called to order with the pledge.

Audience:

Ryan Craig, Adams Brown Mobility Management:

- Just wanted to introduce himself and inform residents what the program offers, transportation services, cost is from \$1.00 to \$4.00, in Adams Brown and Highland Counties. Trying to incorporate Clermont County. (See brochure)

Judy Nye, Bible Chapel UCC:

- Following up on the ditching issue on the north side of property; When going to get something started; drainage is going up-hill. Also, the holes in Congress Alley need repaired/fixed

Guy Sutton informed Ms. Nye that the Village has 3 or 4 other properties with similar issues and the Village is trying to schedule a time when the contractor can fix all of them. Cost would be cheaper if contractor only has to make one trip. The Village has had some abuse to the sewer systems by residences so the employees are trying to take care of that. Will look at the holes in Congress Alley.

Tyler Keller:

- Still have a sewer odor coming from across the street.

Guy Sutton will have Tim look at this.

Bev Smallwood:

- Purchased a Veteran banner on August 14, 2023. Still have not received the banner. In January spoke with Justin; getting very frustrated, works with electrical union, do need to get attorney? Feel Village should write an apology letter to her step-dad.

Guy Stutton: Have a new supplier for the banners now.

Bev Smallwood: Need pictures back. Only one have

Guy Sutton: Melissa has been hounding the guy about that; current vendor wants paid in full before he releases any pictures.

Justin Jones: The Village will have David Grimes, Village Solicitor, reach out to the current vendor.

Melanie Trumble: For future banners, probably need to have the individual give the Village copies of pictures that way we don't have this issue again.

Justin Jones: Informed Ms. Smallwood that the Village will do what they can to make this right.

Old Business:

Camera Policy:

Jerry Seibert: Mr. Grimes was trying to find information on this.

Beverly Coomer: Mt Orab nor Ripley have a policy in place for this. Why we need something?

Justin Jones: The main terminal will be at the Village building, login protected; security protected.

Council came to a consensus that the Village does not need a camera policy

Justin Jones: Have tried multiple times to reach out to Mary Edwards regarding her seat on Council, asking for a written resignation letter and no response. Suggest to Council that the Council make a motion to remove Mary from her Council seat due to absentee.

Motion by Beverly Coomer makes a motion to remove Mary Edwards from her Council seat due to absentee, effective June 24, 2024. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Justin Jones: Council will be accepting resumes until July 15th to full-fill the vacant Council seat.

Jerry Seibert: Discussion on chickens within the Village. Have done some research, 5 to chickens will feed a family of 3 to 4. No roosters, keep pinned, if getting complaints on chickens, they lose their privilege.

Melanie Trumble: There is a thing called chicken math; State requires you to purchase chickens in a lot of 6 (baby chicks)

Dale Owsley: Keep down smell; if had maximum amount could have.

Guy Sutton: Odor is a matter of opinion. People tend to push the limit.

Jerry Seibert: Have to have rules and stipulations.

Guy Sutton: What if someone wants a cow? Are going to allow other farm livestock?

Jerry Seibert: Will come up with something for the next meeting.

Beverly Coomer: Melissa Zahn was given a \$2.00 hour raise a year ago to be the Assistant Town Administrator, she was given a one-year probation. She had to have someone trained to do her job; need to resend that; no one was trained to do her job; supposed to be ad in paper. Mr. Sutton was to train Melissa to be Town Administrator. She got extra \$2.00 per hour for training. Was ad ever placed?

Guy Sutton: Don't know

Melanie Trumble: Went into executive meeting over this in July.

Motion by Don Wilson to go into executive session at 7:50 P.M. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, and compensation of a public employee pursuant to ORC 121.22G1. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Back in regular session at 8:10 P.M.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to rescind Resolution 2023-19, effective June 24, 2024. Seconded by Don Wilson, Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2024-08 was presented. An Ordinance to allowing Melissa Zahn to remain at \$20.00 an hour, effective June 24, 2024, to be paid bi-weekly, out of the water and electric fund, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to waive and suspend the reading of an ordinance on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Austin – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to adopt **Ordinance 2024-08**. Seconded by Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Ordinance 2024-08 adopted.

Discussion if the resolution was passed for the rate change for garbage/trash removal.

Ordinance 2024-06 was presented. An Ordinance to increase the trash removal rates by the Village of Hamersville, retro-active May 30, 2024, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to waive and suspend the reading of an ordinance on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Melanie Trumble to adopt **Ordinance 2024-06**. Seconded by Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Ordinance 2024-06 adopted.

Jerry Seibert presented some changes that may need to make for the administrative policy. (See attached). Will have another committee meeting and readdress with Council.

Beverly Coomer: Did Melissa get her new computer?

Guy Sutton: Yes, she has.

New Business:

Motion by Jerry Seibert to approve the May 27, 2024 minutes. Seconded by Beverly Coomer. All in favor. Motion carried. Melanie Trumble abstained.

Motion by Don Wilson to approve the payment of bills. Seconded by Melanie Trumble. All in favor. Motion carried.

Tim Saylor: Did bill a resident for a pump, did not bill for labor. Just ordered six pumps. Pumps are different now. Should the Village bill for material and labor? Landlord ask if they are responsible?

Yes – stays with the property.

Tim Saylor: OK, what to charge?

Guy Sutton: Informed Tim regarding the sewer smell at Breedlove's.

Tim Saylor: thinks under the house; it is dry now; will follow-up

Clerk presented Resolution 2024-02, a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

Resolution 2024-02, a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to waive and suspend the reading of an ordinance on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Melanie Trumble. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to adopt **Resolution 2024-02**. Seconded by Melanie Trumble. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Resolution 2024-02 adopted.

Clerk advised Council to keep an eye on their email. The Auditor's are sending them information and they need to respond.

Guy Sutton: Matt Ernest sent a letter fumed up about junk cars, etc. If we enforce on one we have to enforce on all.

Justin Jones: Tired of the junk and litter

Guy Sutton: Can enforce but have to be unilateral.

Justin Jones: If they are in violation, will defend the Police Department.

Discussion on junk, litter and clutter within the Village.

Guy Sutton: Applied for an extension for Public Safety Grant. Extension is through end of year. Travis has been approved to work time and half through this grant.

Ordinance 2024-09, an Ordinance allowing Travis Stone to work overtime and be paid time and a half through the ARPA Public Safety Grant, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to waive and suspend the reading of an ordinance on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Beverly Coomer. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to adopt **Ordinance 2024-09**. Seconded by Beverly Coomer. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Melanie – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Ordinance 2024-09 adopted.

Guy Sutton: Looks like the Village is going to get the waterline inventory grant, not set in stone yet.

Jerry Seibert: Guy across Marathon, Tom also has ditching problem.

Guy Sutton: Have several in area need to get put together to do.

Tim Saylor: Pumps are here and been working on that

Jerry Seibert: The fire amazed – no one knew about it – how take to Fire Department – need to notify people.

Guy Sutton: Common courtesy. Call Melissa or me and get information out there. Don't know a whole a lot about the situation though.

Dale Owsley: July 6th having Heritage Day Prelude. Having to put it together quickly. 186th year of Hamersville.

Melanie Trumble: Have talked to Brown County Historical Society?

Dale Owsley: Yes, getting set up for next year.

Beverly Coomer: Sewer fund needs money; did research and 50% of pay out of sewer.

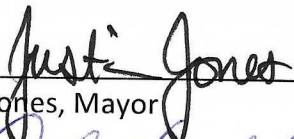
Guy Sutton: Discussion on income tax or levy.

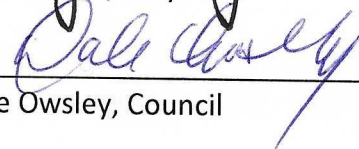
Beverly Coomer: On Facebook wanting golf carts allowed. Can't allow on SR 125 or SR 774.

Beverly Coomer: Grimes an email regarding comp time or overtime? Emailed him on 24th of May, someone from his office called and says only represents Mayor and Council. Informed her I was on Council. Said don't have to follow but should; ask her to have Grimes email that to me and she said no; Recommends new attorney.

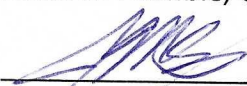
Justin Jones: Have reached out to Grimes and no response.

Motion by Beverly Coomer to adjourn. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. All in favor. Motion carried.

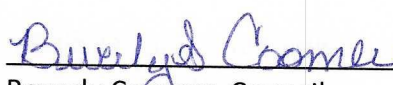

Justin Jones, Mayor


Dale Owsley, Council

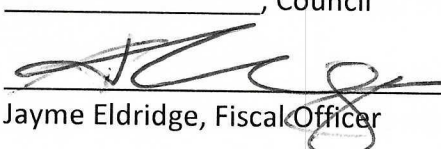
Melanie Trumble, Council


Jerry Seibert, Council

Don Wilson, Council


Beverly Coomer, Council

_____, Council


Jayme Eldridge, Fiscal Officer