

Village of Hamersville
Village Council Meeting

28 Apr 2025

The Council of the Village of Hamersville met in regular session at the Village Municipal Building on 28 Apr 2025 at 7PM. Members present were Beverly Coomer, Dale Owsley, Jerry Seibert, Eid Edaili, Cheryl Toppin, Charles Elliot. Also present were Mayor Justin Jones, Police Chief/Village Administrator Guy Sutton, Travis Stone Police Officer. Tim Saylor Village employee, David Grimes Village Solicitor, Melissa Zahn Village Employee

Guest: Ryan Craig ABCAP

Residents; Angela Marlow, Charlene Bronner, AJ McCormick

Meeting was called to order with the pledge at 7:09PM

Justin introduced Ryan Craig with ABCAP

Ryan: Introduced a catalogue of all sidewalks in town. Running a program which compiles data for up to ten projects. Looking for a project for each village and possibly two projects for the county.

Requires one street per submission, log conditions you can take pictures video, all while walking. Sardinia got funding through grant like this one. It is crowdsourcing conditions and needs based off community feedback.

Village residents follow prompts from app and this crowdsources the information.

Eid: What is the goal of feedback.

Ryan: We would like to see as many as possible.

Guy: We filled a preliminary request for sidewalks it may be approved it may not. Match FTA DOT.

Ryan: We can't match State and Federal Money simultaneously. Looking for two representatives from each village. Here is a flyer with the QR code to log in. It has a video for safety and how to use the system. Ryan ended his presentation.

Justin: I would like a food donation box; we would need to vote on this of course but there are farmers who would help supply produce to those in need.

First Reading of Ordinance 2025-01 – an Ordinance adopting the Employee Handbook.

Ordinance for Pay increase Tim Saylor and Justice Kreimer. Tim to increase pay to \$23 and Justice to \$25. 3rd reading.

Resolution 2025-04 was presented. A resolution to adopting an arial lift truck bucket use policy and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Eid Edaili to waive and suspend the reading of a resolution on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Dale Owsley. Roll call vote: Eid – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Cheryl – Yes; Chuck – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Eid Edaili to adopt **Resolution 2025-04**. Seconded by Dale Owsley. Roll call vote Eid – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Cheryl – Yes; Chuck – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Resolution 2025-01 adopted

Tim: We have six pumps down and need rebuild kits for these. Barnes pumps are the ones that are down.

Bev: What percentage do we have of Barnes to Zohler?

Tim: Roughly 2/3? We have around 100 Barnes pumps and 40 or so Zohler. We have been pumping every day because we do not have the parts to repair the down pumps.

Six Barnes pumps are \$19200

\$3993 Motors for the six pumps we need to rebuild

\$907 a piece for floats. 6 floats needed one for each rebuild.

With the pricing on pumps, it makes more sense to just buy a new pump. A rebuild kit is overhaul kit, new motor and wiring, is \$2900. But a new pump is \$3199

Tim explained his frustration with not getting a straight answer from Jayme regarding the sewer budget.

Justin: Is that all Tim.

Tim: We need to weather eat sidewalks and some mowing around town. People are blowing grass onto the street. And we need to revisit the mowing ordinance.

Guy: We need to be specific 12 inches, 15 inches? When we speak to height of grass. When we look at the ordinance.

Also. I input grants preliminary \$800K for sidewalks, sewer plant and pumps 2M, 450K for a community building which doubles as a storm shelter and the land to place it on. Jon Husted has another grant we are applying for.

We need to call Georgetown DOT for crosswalk signs that blink like they have in Bethel. Tim volunteered to call.

Council discussed what needs to be completed for Paycor to get up and running. Justin will follow up with Jayme.

A.J.: I have a commercial ice cream maker I would like to donate use to for a fundraiser for town. Possibly around the 4th of July.

Angela: I would like to be on the sidewalk committee.

Justin: Anything else?

Angela: I have been advised by council to not mention anything else.

Charlene? Nothing

Melissa: Need to establish a rate for removing utilities and look at the ordinance for security lights. We should have a deposit for a new service. A possibility is to have a 50% up-front fee for new service but before hookup bill must be paid in full.

See ordinance for Private Security Lights 2017-03

Eid: We should look at fixture cost, cost of bulbs, and labor before we really change this.

Justin: Asked to go into executive session to discuss an employee's bereavement process.

Bev Motions for Executive session Eid 2nds

Chuck Y, Dale Y, Cheryl Y, Jerry Y

Bev Motions to leave Executive session Eid 2nds

Chuck Y, Dale Y, Cheryl Y, Jerry Y

Jerry Motions and Bev 2nds

Motion for Justice Kreimer Village Employee to use his bereavement leave as his grieving process allows, while still supporting the village. Justice is given 3 full paid days of bereavement leave and the motions allows him to use this leave as he sees fit.

Cheryl Y, Dale Y, Chuck Y, Eid Y

Bev: Per meeting with Jayme in a financial meeting we must eliminate all overtime and comp time. Police department has brought in \$10245 in revenue for the year. We are down 100k in all accounts over from last year.

Guy: Arpa is paying for Travis his payroll comes from the grant.

Guy: I have a question, the ARPA grant pays Travis' salary up until June.

Guy: We only have three months to use this what we don't use we have to give back.

Bev: I'm curious as to why we aren't getting any more money than that. She asks Justin if she can ask this.

Justin: That's alright.

Travis: there is one officer working and traffic is not the way it used to be. They know my schedule and know I am not out here 24 hours a day 7 a week. Your welcome to come ride with me and come see what it's like.

Bev: Oh Travis I don't trust you enough to ride in a car with you. And laughs.

Justin: That was uncalled for.

David: What?

Everyone states Bevs comment was uncalled for, and Bev apologized if she had offended anyone.

Bev: ARPA is now down to less than \$50k our tickets are down what can we do to have the police department increase productivity? The village is in financial crisis and the police has only made \$10k This year.

Travis: I work 2 to midnight I'm the only cop who is working the road in town. I have three kids at home I don't get time with my kids as it is. I come in at 2 I leave at midnight.

Bev: Are you willing to work different shifts so that we could catch more infractions?

Travis: I'm not willing to adjust my hours and it's asinine to adjust my hours when we need to hire more cops. I

Guy: Other police stations would pay Travis \$82K a year to be a cop there.

Bev: Also, per Jayme Guy needs to sign off on time sheets. Justin signs the checks, and Guy needs to sign the time sheets. Justin should not be doing both. But we need to eliminate any overtime.

Eid: If Travis' pay is coming from the ARPA grant, I don't mind if he is getting overtime.

Guy: It would be nice if Jayme were to show up at a meeting.

Bev: I agree.

Guy: When the grant money is gone Travis will be back to 40 hours per week.

Angela: It should be for investigations that was what the overtime was for.

Bev: Your new radios are they up and running?

Guy: Not quite they are flashed but they need to be synced. They must be on the Marks system. And then be programmed. They are on track to be up soon.

Resolution 2025-05 was presented. A resolution to change the pay rate of Melissa Zahn from \$20.00 per hour to \$20.60 per hour, effective April 26, all other terms will remain the same, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

Motion by Eid Edaili to waive and suspend the reading of a resolution on three separate occasions and declaring it an emergency. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. Roll call vote: Eid – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Cheryl – Yes; Chuck – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to adopt **Resolution 2025-02**. Seconded by Eid Edaili. Roll call vote: Eid – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Cheryl – Yes; Chuck – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Resolution 2025-01 adopted.

Guy: Arcadia water line inventory. This will be simple they will be potholing 200 customers to check lines. They will have papers and uniforms so people will know they are legitimate. And be reminded this is all paid for with grants. Once this starts it should only take about two weeks.

Eid: Asked about the new electric increase.

Guy: Roughly the line maintenance cost is going up about 30% and the line maintenance cost is roughly 1/3 of the overall bill. There was an article posted and about the increased electric cost.

Guy: I can call Vince and ensure we have all the details available to us.

Justin: Chuck, Dale anything?

Both answer nothing.

Tim: I talked to him the other day and Employees need support. We just have employees getting blasted and my name is being drug through the mud. I appreciate what you guys did for Justice that's awesome but then you turn around and say you can't trust the town cop his drug is being drug through the mud and Justin is the only one defending me in public. I appreciate the thanks you and the good job and stuff I appreciate that but when someone is blasting your employees on a public platform it's not too much to say this is incorrect and

that all it takes. My and Justins kids both go to school here and it would just take one crazy parent to take this stuff to heart its been as much as people from council talking bad about us while we are delivering food. I don't understand it or what to say besides we need more support and backing. And it was a perfect example of what just happened to Travis. Here we are on facebook live and Bev states she does not trust the cops in town. And you said to him two weeks ago. There have been lots of lies and I've been lied about.

Eid: There should be consequences for someone verbally attacking anyone.

There should be something done about someone sharing false information.

Justin: A guy at church got into me while we were handing out food. Got back from delivering food. He has the pastor and his daughter with him. He was dogging people talking loud and he did not know who a duke employee was because they all took their vests off and call them names for doing something they weren't even doing. I let him finish his rant. And explained this is not what is going on and before I could explain he took it to a higher-level way up there. I'll go to bat for you guys all day.

Eid: There needs to be consequences for someone harassing public officials while they are in tehri public capacity. He uses the situation Justin spoke of as an example you were serving the people there should be accountability.

Justin: Travis stepped in.

Eid: Were there consequences.

Travis: They were made to leave. There is telecommunications harassment but not in ORC he was made to leave.

Tim: but the thing is you want to hold him accountable but what about someone on council talking bad about the employees. While they're passing out food.

Eid: I don't know enough information about this.

Tim: Here's the information I have, and this is not the first time. The reason Justin can't do this is because of the accusation that Justin and I are best friends. The idea that I and Justice and Melissa get everything we want because we are friends with Justin is ridiculous. I just want your backing. Thats all I'm asking.

Eid: If you want our backing on something we must know about it. This is the first I'm hearing about this.

Tim: I read in another post to you guys a couple of months ago. There were multiple other instances, and Eid spoke out about them.

Eid: if I know about something I can back you up and I can stand for what's rights.

Tim: If someone can hey, we don't appreciate you talking about our employees like that.

Angela: Can employees talk about citizens if you give them an inch, they take a mile or talk about citizens

Justin: I think the problem is I get the frustration of the employees because if you were to say something about a council member. Then you would be admonished for it.

Tim: Agres and I already feel that way.

Justin: If you said something to a council member you would be admonished but if someone says something to an employee what is their recourse.

Eid: How can I stand up for you if I do not know what was said.

Justin: He is just asking for more support.

Guy: Jerry when you wrote that policy, I asked you a question is what good for thee good for me?

Jerry: Yes of course.

Guy: Is it I don't think so. All the bad crap on the internet.

Eid: We cannot regulate a public group.

Tim: that's not what I'm asking.

Justin: He's speaking about the handbook.

Guy: Is the bar higher for the employees than it is for the council.

Jerry: No, I'm just a fat concrete pumper.

Justin: His point is if guy were to say something about not trusting someone. Then he would get in trouble.

Guy: It's a mutual respect thing. The handbook states we have to respect council members. Even if we disagree. We can't go on the internet and insult even if false and this happens.

Angela: And some people believe it.

Justin: If you see if something that's not true.

Tim: I can give you an example and we have talked about this. In this room in a meeting, I don't know which but when someone says he manipulated every single one of you into

raising water rates. It was as simple as saying no he didn't he gave us the information, and we made the decisions and voted. And then one of you come up to the table for Melissa and state she needs to do something about the water rates. Like she Melissa can control that. As a council member you voted for it why is Melissa involved.

Angela: It wasn't your job to do the rates Tim it was councils.

Justin: Regardless of who got the information does not matter. I asked Tim to do this.

Tim: The water was not enough, and we all knew this if we had not done this we would have been surprised in Sept.

Eid: I take responsibility for raising this more than what Tim recommended. We need to raise more we need to have some cushion.

Tim: Thats my point I didn't do it.

Eid: we can't stop people from talking but we should do something about people spreading information that is incorrect anywhere publicly and they should be banned from meetings.

Angela: Thats against the law.

Eid: Thats what I'm talking about, you just disturbed the meeting and legally you get banned from this meeting. You just can't disrupt us.

Angela: Aruges that everyone else has a say in how government is conducted.

Eid: there are laws to protect everyone in here not just you.

Angela: I'm being treated differently.

Eid: No, I'm not saying you do but when someone spreads false information there should be accountability. Your ruining reputations, well not you but someone is with spreading false information.

Angela: I understand

Eid: if you are caught spreading false information you should be banned from all meetings that's my opinion.

Bev Motions to adjourn. Eid 2nds

Eid Motions to reconvene Jerry 2nds Cheryl Yes Chuck Yes

Eid Motions Jerry 2nds

To allocated \$28890 out of any sewer fund to purchase pumps, rebuild kits and floats.

Cheryl Y Bev Y Chuck Y

All vote to purchase needed parts.

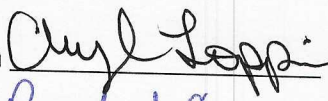
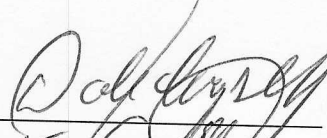
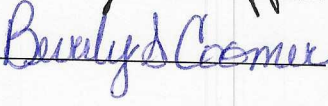
Jerry Motions Eid 2nds to pay the bills

Bev Y Cheryl y, Chuck Y Motions carries to pay the bills

Jerry Motions and Eid 2nds to accepts meeting minutes

Bev Y, Cheryl Y, Chuck Y Motion carries to accept meeting minutes.

Jerry motions to adjourn Cheryl 2nds

Cheryl Toppin		Dale Owsley	
Bev Coomer		Eid Edaili	
Jerry Seibert		Charles Elliot	