

VILLAGE OF HAMERSVILLE
Village Council Meeting
May 20, 2024

The Council of the Village of Hamersville met in regular session at the Village Municipal Building on May 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Members present were **Beverly Coomer, Don Wilson, Jr., Dale Owsley and Jerry Seibert**. Also present were: Mayor Justin Jones, Police Chief/Village Administrator Guy Sutton, Travis Stone, Police Officer, and David Grimes, Solicitor.

Residents: Angela Marlow

Melanie Trumble was excused from the meeting.

The meeting was called to order with the pledge at 7:08 p.m.

Old Business:

Beverly Coomer recommends using American Rescue Plan Funds replacement and/or repairs of pumps.

Discussion on fixing lift station on 774, alarm system, transfer pump, need pump to move sewage to Mt. Orab. The most critical part is the transfer pump.

Tim Saylor: 6 Barnes pumps is \$3106.00 a piece for a total of \$18,636.00; need floats about 5 or 6 of them, cost is \$5442.00; pump for the school is \$7687.00; total of \$31,728.00.

Discussion on charging resident for grinder pumps.

Resolution 2024-01 was presented. A resolution to spend funds from the American Rescue Plan, and declaring an emergency, effective immediately.

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

Motion by Jerry Seibert to adopt **Resolution 2023-01**. Seconded by Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Jerry – Yes; Beverly – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Resolution 2023-01 adopted.

Justin Jones: Hamersville Church of Christ going open doors for bad weather.

Dale Owsley: What is the cost for the auto call for bad weather?

Justin Jones: Will follow up on that.

Guy Sutton: Discussion on the proposed policy on the security cameras?

Beverly Coomer: Other Villages don't have policy; Mayor and Chief can look at whenever; if a citizen's want to see, then Mayor or Chief accompany them, if criminal act then the Chief will handle.

Guy Sutton: Would like to know why Mayor needs remote access?

Justin Jones: Would like to have remove access to address any concerns:

Guy Sutton: If anyone wants to see it, then have two people be there to view.

Justin Jones: Wants a computer dedicated to camera system.

Guest: Sounds like don't trust officer.

Justin Jones: If requested but not given.

Guy Sutton: Technology down

Guest: Don't think too many people need access to cameras.

Guy Sutton: Policy – any cop not related can be witness to what you take off the camera.

Justin Jones – Don't want to take copies off of – just view if needed.

Guy Sutton: Melissa can watch live but can't rewind.

Angela: Two people have to sign off for safe for Mayors Court.

Guy Sutton: Yes, but doesn't always happen; Does not have access to the Mayors Court safe.

Justin Jones: I would think Lisa would be the only one to have access to the Mayors Court safe.

Guy Sutton: If take evidence money – always two to County for – County money – don't have access to that (Mayors Court safe)

Justin Jones: Denny Schneider signs, family would like to know when they are hanging the signs, they would like to be present.

Beverly Coomer: Do we have paperwork for that to change street name all complete?

Guy Sutton: Yes, once installed have to filed with County and 911, in limbo until get poles in ground.

Debate on policy for camera access.

Jerry Seibert: Who have access – don't think if on vacation you should be checking but if someone left wallet in office then Justin can check.

Guy Sutton: If set up so nobody delete's something.

Don Wilson: Can't alter their camera systems at his place of employment.

Guy Sutton: Camera in office was around \$250.00.

Don Wilson: Don't mind having system as long as don't abuse it.

Dale Owsley: As long as kept to a box and not to intranet – so many hacking – OK if come to building to have access – no remote access.

Guy Sutton: As long as have something to view, etc, have two people at the time of viewing.

Don Wilson: Need to see capability of what we can do.

Camera Policy tabled until June 2024 meeting.

Discussion on getting a new computer for Melissa Zahn, cost around \$1900.00, 16 tera bites; sold state drives from Robo Riggs.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to allow Guy Sutton to purchase a new computer from Robo Riggs, not to exceed \$2000.00 for water/sewer/trash/electric. Seconded by Don Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Justin Jones: Maintenance guys have been doing a great job.

Motion by Beverly Coomer to approve the January, February and March 2024 minutes. Seconded by Don Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Beverly Coomer to approve the payment of bills. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Western Brown School District has their monthly meeting the same time of the month as the Village does. Would like to mover our meeting to the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

Motion by Jerry Seibert to move the Council meeting to the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Seconded by Beverly Coomer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jerry Seibert: Grants keep changing. Will do research on grants to see if any apply to the Village.

Dale Owlsey: Discussion on lifting the Ordinance against raising chickens with the Village corporation. Think the Council needs to rescind this Ordinance to small animals. Kept in a pin, etc. There would have to be some restrictions so doesn't get out of hand.

Justin Jones: Good to have – just watch the number of animals.

Dale Owsley: Good as long as pinned.

Jerry Seibert: Base if off the property size?

Guy Sutton: One thing to consider is the odor

Beverly Coomer: Asked David Grimes if put spending cap together on Guy Sutton?

Discussion on Guy Sutton spending. Was voted on at the March meeting.

Beverly Coomer: Banners – are they ready? Did pictures get returned to owners?

Guy Sutton: Yes ready – not sure if got pictures back, Melissa was dealing with that.

New business:

Jerry Seibert: Grants – What can be done? Willing to write grants. Discussed about getting drones for police station.

Discussion on ARC grant to fix intersection.

Guy Sutton: Filed for grant funds. John, water guy, gave information. Every meter has a service line, EPA is requesting an inventory on service lines, what type, etc. There are 352 water meters. Have applied for a grant to do this. Spoke with grant people and they felt Village should get this grant. If we get the grant, it is no cost to the Village to do this. Cost is anywhere from \$50,000.00 to \$200,000.00. Federal EPA are the ones requiring this to be done, so EPA has grant funds available. Hopefully know by end of July, if Village gets the grant, could take up to two years to complete.

Guy Sutton: Angela showed in ARPA Public Safety Grant where Travis Stone pay is \$18.00 per hour plus \$2.00 per hour for the K-9. The Village no longer uses the funds, however, spoke with grant people and they said that is OK to leave Travis Stone at \$20.00 per hour. Need Village to approve this pay change.

Ordinance 2024-07 was presented. An ordinance modifying the prior pay ordinance of Travis Stone, Mr. Stone is no longer using the K-9 but will remain at \$20.00 per hour, paid through the ARPA Public Safety Grant, retro-active December 18, 2023, 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; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Don Wilson to adopt **Ordinance 2023-07**. Seconded by Jerry Seibert. Roll call vote: Beverly – Yes; Jerry – Yes; Don – Yes; and Dale – Yes. Motion carried and Mayor Jones declared Ordinance 2023-07 adopted.

Justin Jones: Mary said she is going to step down from Council. Still waiting on resignation letter. She hasn't been at last 3 meetings.

David Grimes: Still need to give her notice. ORC 73.45 – Giver her notice to resign or be at next meeting.

Beverly Coomer: ORC if miss 2 meetings, Council can note her off.

Justin Jones: Reached out to Township to do events.

Jerry Seibert: Heard from Middeltown about getting quote for sidewalk?

Dale Owsley: Instead of doing something July 4th, try to do Heritage Day, for August or September

Beverly Coomer: Need to do something for the Village

Don Wilson: Heritage Day would be good, could do this every year

Guest: What if more than one person would like to fill the vacant seat?

Council can appoint someone up to 30 days after resignation effective, if no one appointed, the Mayor appoints.

Tim Saylor: Need to change some of the restrictions on housing requirements within the Village. Lots to small do anything on and then the Village will have empty lots.

Discussion on size of homes, etc. Council to review the property lines of where structure needs to be.

Motion by Don Wilson to adjourn. Seconded by Beverly Coomer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Justin Jones, Mayor

Don Wilson, Council

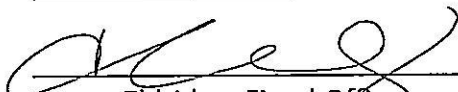
Dale Owsley, Council

Beverly Coomer, Council

Melanie Trumble, Council

_____, Council

Jerry Seibert, Council



Jayme Eldridge, Fiscal Officer