

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Mayor Steve Smith presided over the meeting. Pastor Jim Baker led the prayer.

Members answering roll call were Kathy Burrier, Liz Dreher, Dustin Briggs, Don Wallick, Jeff Smith, and Martin Zehnder. Other's present were Legal Counsel Terry Seeberger, Police Sergeant Brandon Warman, Fire Chief Steve Laskey, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Mike Rosenberry, Ross & Karla Gardner, Wes Hostetler, and Pastor Jim Baker.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2023, council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Mayor Steve Smith reminded residents that spring clean-up is Tuesday, April 11, 2023, reported that the parking spaces downtown will be painted once the temperature warms up, and reminded residents that the Ohio open burning law is in effect now through the end of May and again in October and November between the hours of 6 am to 6 pm.

Mayor Smith read the zoning inspectors report in his absence which included permits for a fence in a rear yard and a shed in a rear yard. Mayor Smith report one appeal for construction of duplexes on proposed split lots and noted that the Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing in the near future. Mayor Smith reported that the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 6, 2023, and council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, on proposed zoning changes for 224 N Bodmer Avenue and the west side of Wooster Avenue from 3rd Street SW to 7th Street SW.

Police Sergeant Brandon Warman reported 211 calls in February for the police department.

Fire Chief Steve Laskey addressed questions from the last council meeting regarding his hours worked at the fire station each week. Laskey noted that he works forty hours each week at the fire station and that his shifts vary each week depending on the staffing needs of the department. Laskey read his report which included 38 calls for service from 2/20/23 – 3/6/23; completed a major goal of being placed on their first alarm for the entire city of Dover; members completing training on incident command situations for the month of March; currently have two members in paramedic school and will have two members completing Fire Safety Inspector training in May; moving closer to meeting with businesses to begin the process of inspections; estimating an increase of calls with the expansion of ProVia's shipping and being added to Dover's alarm box; and the department has been selected to receive an award for their involvement with Special Olympics and will be presented on March 11, 2023 at their basketball tournament at Strasburg High School.

Finance – Chairman Jeff Smith presented council with an estimate of \$ 250.00 from The Drone Guy to take pictures for the new website. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve the cost of \$ 250.00 for The Drone Guy. At roll call, all members voted approval.

RESOLUTION 2023-5

Resolution 2023-5 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Resolution 2023-5, A RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE OF OHIO TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO FURTHER PROTECT PERSONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO FROM THE INHERENT DANGERS OF A TRAIN DERAILMENT ON THE TRACKS LOCATED AT OR NEAR OUR VILLAGE. At roll call, all members voted approval and this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Press Representative Barb Limbacher noted that she began 43 years ago covering the village's council meetings, has served under five mayors, and stated that currently it is incredibly sad the rumors and lies that she hears in the public and in these meetings.

Mike Rosenberry addressed council regarding a past discussion about adding a community yard sale in the spring. Council held a brief discussion and recommended the second weekend of May from Thursday through Monday will be the spring community wide sale dates and also keep the August community yard sale dates the second weekend of August, Thursday through Monday.

Mike Rosenberry asked council if they are aware what trains are carrying through our village. Fire Chief Steve Laskey reported that he has been in conversation with representatives from R J Corman and that chemicals are being hauled from Brewster to Dover Chemical and noted that many chemicals are hauled through our village on trucks on Wooster Avenue. Laskey noted that we are working on an emergency management plan with the county.

Martin Zehnder suggested sending a letter to ODOT and the county regarding the need for a right turn lane at the intersection of Fort Laurens Road and Wooster Avenue. Mayor Smith noted that he can reach out again to them regarding the suggestion.

A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Liz Dreher, to give the garage located at 110 Railroad Avenue back to the Strasburg Franklin School for storage of their five school busses. The vote was as follows: Zehnder, yes; Wallick, no; Smith, no; Dreher, yes; Burrier, no; and Briggs, no.

Kathy Burrier thanked all village employees for their commitment and all of their hard work for the village. Mayor Smith and Jeff Smith agreed and thanked all of the departments.

Dustin Briggs asked Zehnder what his solution would be for our street department and how he would explain to the taxpayers of our village if his motion would have passed to give the school the garage at 110 Railroad Avenue. Wes Hostetler noted that he has been told that there is a lot of equipment in the bays at the garage that is not being used and has no value. Hostetler noted that the school busses sit outside and that the school has roughly spent \$ 60,000.00 for rental and storage of the busses. Mayor Smith asked Hostetler why the school never installed electric on the outside of the school to plug in the busses at the school. Hostetler asked the mayor where that space would be for the busses by the school. Mayor Smith noted that the hot box and the leaf vac are two pieces of equipment that are stored in the bays at the street garage and noted that the leaf vac is used to clean catch basin and the streets for drainage. Zehnder noted that the volume of the stuff sitting in the five bays is a joke and is junk and could be moved to other buildings so the school can have the bays for the school busses. Zehnder noted that we have room in other buildings that this stuff could be moved to. Briggs noted that if we give that building to the school then the village will have to use taxpayer's money for a new building for our street department. Zehnder noted that nothing was voted on when the busses were moved out in 2012. Hostetler noted that if we want to build a better community then we need to keep this out of court. Zehnder noted that Mayor Smith is the most vindictive mayor. Briggs noted that if we hand this building over to the school then it will cost the taxpayers money to build a garage for our street department. Press Representative Barb Limbacher stated that if this issue has been discussed at the school board meetings in executive session that Hostetler as a school board member should not be discussing the issue at an open council meeting. Hostetler stated that the school board has not held an executive session regarding the bus garage issue and that he is speaking as a taxpayer of the village not as a school board member. Hostetler noted that he appreciates the village as a taxpayer and that we have the best community around and that is why he lives here.

Fire Chief Laskey addressed Martin Zehnder about questions about his hours that were discussed at the previous meeting and asked Zehnder to please contact him in the future if he has any questions.

A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to adjourn at 6:30 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.

MAYOR STEVE SMITH

FISCAL OFFICER JENNIFER MAHONEY