

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 7:00 pm. Mayor Bruce Metzger presided over the meeting.

Members answering roll call were Kathy Burrier, Liz Dreher, Jeff Smith, Dustin Briggs, Wes Hostetler, and Martin Zehnder. Others present were Legal Counsel Terry Seeberger, Fire Chief Steve Laskey, Police Chief Dave Warrick, Street Superintendent Matt Miller, Water/Sewer Operator Nathan Kanouff, Zoning Inspector Ted Foster, Police Officer Kayla Willer, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Stacey Carmany, Engineer Don Dummermuth, Engineer Dan Dummermuth, Jerry Schultz, Lewis Dreher, Randy Zehnder, Brent Metzger, Christine Raderchak, Barry Biechler, Michelle Huffman, David Dennison, Kathleen Metzger, Lindsay Bailey, Shelley Armstrong, Luminita Antel, Chris Riggi, Trisha Harshey, Teri Edwards, Kayla Morrison, and Marilyn Graef.

A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024, council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval.

The December 2023 financial statement, the December 2023 Unified Bank statement, the December 2023 SSB Worksheet, and the list of bills in the amount of \$ 250,436.41, was presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve the December 2023 financial statement, the December 2023 Unified Bank statement, the December SSB worksheet, and the list of bills in the amount of \$ 250,436.41. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Fire Chief Steve Laskey read his report that included twenty-nine calls for the first 23 days of January and reported on preventive maintenance on the trucks. A brief discussion was held on the current trucks for the department.

Police Chief Dave Warrick reported that officers will be attending crisis intervention training at the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's office at a cost of \$ 50.00 per officer and that Sergeant Brandon Warman will be attending training in March with a registration fee of \$ 400.00.

Engineer Don Dummermuth addressed the council and discussed the preliminary plans for the wastewater treatment plant expansion. Dummermuth noted that in 2022 due to infiltration the capacity was exceeded, in 2020 it was a dry year, and the plant was under capacity, and in 2019 it was over capacity by 10-15% because of a wet spring. Dummermuth noted that a lot of infiltration comes from the storm flows and that the lower part of the community sits on the water table which is eight to ten feet below the ground. Dummermuth noted that the sewer lines are old and can leak into the storm sewer. Nathan Kanouff noted that the village did have a contractor a few years ago working on the biggest areas where the infiltration was happening and that it has reduced the infiltration and helped with keeping the levels below the capacity of the plant. The council held a brief discussion on the preliminary plans for the expansion and the timeline once the plans are submitted to the EPA. Dummermuth noted that the current plant is twenty years old and that for the expansion the old equipment would be replaced. Dummermuth noted that septage acceptance equipment is out of service and that no outside sludge can be received and that we can do away with that equipment. Dummermuth noted that approval from the EPA of the preliminary plans should take around three months and when we get their comments and address them, we can move forward on the design which could take nine months to a year, and construction could take a year to a year and a half. Dummermuth noted that the bid process needs to be added to the timeline. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to give approval to Engineer Don Dummermuth to submit the preliminary plans to the EPA. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Zoning Inspector Ted Foster requested that residents on Bodmer Avenue be reminded to keep their sidewalks clear. Mayor Bruce Metzger noted that the village employees take care of the sidewalks at our properties. Police Chief Warrick noted that the parking ban in the village is when we have two inches or more of snow.

ORDINANCE O-5-2024

Ordinance O-5-2024, An Ordinance regulating nuisance feral animals, enacting new sections 90.04 and 90.05, and amending section 90.90, was give its first reading by title only.

Marilyn Graef from Tuscarawas TNR asked for a copy of the ordinance and thanked Mayor Metzger for speaking to her the other day and introduced Teri Edwards from the humane society.

Legal Counsel Seeberger noted the ordinance blends with the old ordinance and includes information on the TNR program. Seeberger noted that the proposed ordinance has a section that largely tracks the Dover ordinance that includes the TNR programs. Police Officer Kayla Willer gave her back story about working in the vet field and working with TNR programs and that she has reviewed the new ordinance and gave suggestions on the new program included in the ordinance. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the proposed ordinance and Mayor Metzger and council thanked everyone for their input on the issue and proposed ordinance.

Franklin Township Trustee Brent Metzger addressed Fire Chief Steve Laskey and council regarding the discussions of the fire trucks for the department. Metzger noted the tanker was purchased by the village, the township, and the fire association and suggested selling the tanker and putting the money to the purchase of the new truck. A brief discussion was held on the tanker.

Barry Biechler noted that after the last council meeting, he was harassed in the parking lot and just wanted to say that he does not hate cats but that a neighbor feeds the feral cats and the cats then come in his yard and are on his truck.

Finance – Chairman Wes Hostetler set a finance committee meeting for Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 10 am.

Park – Chairwoman Kathy Burrier presented a quote in the amount of \$ 1,100.00 for replacement fencing at the park. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve the fencing that will be done in the spring. At roll call, all members voted approval. Burrier set a park committee meeting for Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 4:30 pm

Street & Alley – Chairman Dustin Briggs reported that the committee met this evening with Street Superintendent Matt Miller to discuss street paving for 2024 and will meet again prior to the next council meeting. Briggs read the list of streets in need of paving and held a brief discussion on 7th Street NW to Dale Avenue. Briggs will give the plat to Legal Counsel Seeberger and Seeberger will put together some correspondence to the Malcuits. Street Superintendent Matt Miller noted that we need to submit our information to the county by March to be included in the county paving program. Briggs noted that Miller found a service truck through state purchasing for the street department to replace the two trucks proposed to sell by auction. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to seek financing for the truck. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Jeff Smith gave an update on the JEDD including Brent Metzger as the new representative for Franklin Township, future amendments for a new Bellstore, funds for the sewer plant expansion, and growth opportunities.

ORDINANCE O-2-2024

Ordinance O-2-2024, An Ordinance amending Strasburg Zoning Code (Section 153.101 of Codified Ordinances), regulating marijuana related uses, was given its first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE O-3-2024

Ordinance O-3-2024, An Ordinance repealing ordinance 9-2023, declaring Wooster Avenue South between 2nd and 9th Streets not to be a business district, and resetting the speed limit in that area, was given its first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE O-4-2024

Ordinance O-4-2024, An Ordinance enacting new section 35.06, temporary premium pay for certain employees covering for supervisory employees, was given its first reading by title only.

RESOLUTION 2024-2

Resolution 2024-2, A Resolution declaring the intent and authorizing the sale of certain municipally owned personal property, including motor vehicles, which are not needed for public use, or are obsolete or unfit for the use for which they were acquired, by internet auction, pursuant to Resolution 2024-1 and Ohio Revised Code, Sec. 721.15 (D), was given its first reading by title only.

Seeberger announced that there will be a joint public hearing on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 5:30 pm for an amendment to the JEDD.

A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to enter into an executive session at 9:01 pm to discuss personnel. At roll call members voted approval. The council reconvened into regular session at 9:39 pm.

Mayor Metzger provided the council with repair estimates from Bleininger Truck Repair for fire department vehicles. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Jeff Smith, to approve the repairs. Mayor Metzger will contact Adventech to see if any of the equipment has already been ordered through them for the repairs.

A motion was made by Dustin Briggs, seconded by Wes Hostetler, to adjourn at 9:44 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.