

Village of St. Paris
July 17, 2023
Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The invocation prayer was led by Pastor Chris Beaver of The Temple of St. Paris.

Roll call was taken by Mayor Brenda Cook. Joe Curran, Terry Ervin II, Lynn Miller, Susan Prince, Sam Ronicker and Randy Smith were present. Village Administrator Spencer Mitchell, Fiscal Officer Mark McGuire and Chief of Police Eric Smith were also present.

Motion was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Ervin to approve the Council agenda, as amended. Motion passed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: none

Motion was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Council meeting minutes dated July 3, 2023. Motion passed.

The presentation of financials dated June 30, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the financial reports as presented. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Bank Reconciliation dated June 30, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Bank Reconciliation. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of Water/Sewer Account Adjustments dated June 30, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Water/Sewer Account Adjustments. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Appropriation Supplemental dated June 30, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Prince to approve the Appropriation Supplemental. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

Mayor's Notes:

- The First Church of God is having a community celebration on August 19, 2023.
- Pony Wagon Days Golf Scramble is July 22, 2023, at Lakeland Golf Course. The event begins at 9:00 AM and the fee is \$65 per person.
- The Champaign County Fair begins August 4, 2023 and ends on August 11, 2023.
- GMS Flight is hosting a Touch-A-Truck on July 20, 2023 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Graham Middle School.
- Graham Local School's administration has given Lifewise Academy permission to utilize the Released Time Religious Instruction Study policy to implement a Lifewise program during the 2023-2024 school year. Lifewise is a Bible based character education for students.

Police Department:

- For the month of April, there were 51 recordable calls for service, 11 arrests.
- Hot Rods and Harley is on July 22, 2023 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. It is a car and bike show held at the middle school.
- Councilor Ervin asked the Chief of Police for an update on the speeding at the intersection of Troy Street and S. Springfield Street. Chief noted that he has posted officers at the location and there has been no speeding.
- Officer Kerrie Kimpel resigned her position as full-time police officer. Her last day of employment is July 30, 2023.

Administrator:

- Commercial property owners on S. Springfield Street have received letters explaining the current schedule of district regulations for the B-3 zoning district. The letter noted that residential use within this area is not permitted unless an application of conditional use permit is received by the St. Paris Board of Zoning Appeals. The application for the conditional use permit is \$75 and the permit would go to the Board of Zoning Appeals for approval.
- With the recent passing of the State of Ohio's budget, Champaign County is accepting applications for properties to be demolished. In order to qualify for demolition, certain criteria must be met such as the signing of a voluntary demolition agreement and being current on the property taxes. Administrator Mitchell is looking at abandoned properties in St. Paris that may qualify for the demolition.
- Administrator Mitchell is waiting on an estimate for street sweeping the following streets: US 36 (from Rupolo Drive to Huffman Drive), W. Walnut Street, W. Lynn Street (from High Street to Springfield Street), W. Poplar Street, High Street and Springfield Street.
- Painting the curbs, updating the parking lines on S. Springfield Street, crosswalks, stop bars, etc. will begin this summer. Also, the Village will be painting a section of curb on S. High Street (between S. College Street and W. Walnut Street) that will restrict parking on that particular section of street. Notification has been sent to the property owner who uses that curb for parking and that owner does have access to on-street parking on W. Walnut Street.
- Administrator Mitchell received an email from a resident expressing concerns about commercial vehicle parking on streets which restricts the view of oncoming traffic. Administrator Mitchell is asking for discussion and guidance from Council and the Police Department on how to address this issue with the resident.
- On July 10, 2023, a water main leak was detected and repaired at the intersection of US 36 and Park Avenue. 8 homes were affected and placed under a boil advisory.
- The water treatment plant experienced a service pump malfunction. The pump is critical to the facility and the pump will be replaced within 7-10 days at an approximate cost of \$10,000.
- The HVAC system at the Harmon Park building was repaired. Administrator Mitchell is considering having an HVAC contractor provide a cost for a preventative maintenance schedule for routine maintenance. The cost will also include maintenance schedules for HVAC systems used at the other Village offices, treatment plants, street and police buildings.

- Interior repairs to the Police Department building is scheduled to start in July with the exterior repairs to be completed by the end of summer.
- Administrator Mitchell met with the Frank Stollings, the St. Paris Postmaster and reached an agreement on the location of the new mailboxes that will be placed on W. Lynn Street. Administrator Mitchell is waiting for Mr. Stollings in regards to which residents will have a permanent PO Box and which need a mailbox.
- The Street Department has been dealing with mower repairs which has delayed the process of installing new street name signs in the Village. The Street Department summer projects include street sign replacement, curb cleaning and painting, crosswalk and stop bar painting, tree trimming and crack-sealing streets.
- Administrator Mitchell noted that he received a verbal estimate on the municipal parking lot updates. The rough estimate is \$20,000 which includes pavement and drainage work.

Committee Appointments and Discussion:

- **Budget:** none
- **JSP Fire Board:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the firehouse.
- **Land & Buildings:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the council room.
- **Park & Trees:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the council room.
- **Planning Commission:**
-The Planning Commission discussed residency at downtown storefronts and is working on a revised amendment to the zoning ordinance.
-The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2023 at 7:30 PM in the council room.
- **Safety:**
-Councilor Smith questioned if the Mayor is allowed to be a part of all the committees and thinks that the Mayor should only observe while at the meetings.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Resolution 1369 – Adopt North Central Ohio (NCO) Solid Waste Management Plan. Mayor Cook read Resolution 1369. The NCO prepared and adopted the Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 3734.53, 3734.54, and 3734.55 for the Allen-Champaign-Hardin-Madison-Shelby-Union Joint Solid Waste District and asked that the plan be approved by local municipalities before submitting to the Ohio EPA. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Prince to approve Resolution 1369. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.
- Council received a note from a village resident asking that Council do something about the noise of a crowing Rooster at 116-118 W. Plum Street. The residents believe that the crowing violates a noise ordinance as how it is either a frequent or long continued animal noise. Chief Smith noted that he has not heard the Rooster crow and believes that it is not noise ordinance violation since it would not be a continuous noise. Councilor Ervin suggested that the Planning Commission could review the noise ordinance and make a recommendation to Council in regards to the language of the animal noise. Councilor Ronicker suggested that someone have a neighborly discussion with the homeowners regarding the Rooster. Mayor Cook asked Councilor Ronicker and Chief Smith to visit the homeowners and discuss the issue of the crowing Rooster. Council requested that Administrator Mitchell ask other local municipalities on how they enforce noise ordinances.

Public Comments:

-Frank Blair, 203 Dugan Street, stated that he is against the \$75 fee for the conditional use permit. He also thought that the Council could decide on whether to allow, or not allow, downtown storefront living without the need of a conditional use permit and without involving the Board of Zoning Appeals. Administrator Mitchell explained, in regards to downtown storefront living, that Council could require the property owner to apply for the conditional use permit, or Council could change the ordinance to allow residential use in the business district, or Council could request information from other local municipalities on how the storefront living issue is addressed.

-Jim Taylor, 3903 Kiser Lake Road and owner of downtown building, noted that current regulations state that a conditional use permit is needed for residential living in the business district and a permit should be filed if an owner wants to have residential living on their business property.

-Joyce Bowlin, 274 W. Poplar Street, mentioned that the Pony Wagon Days Committee is planning activities for each of the 3 days. Thursday is the parade, Friday is a free concert to be held at one of the churches, and activities are planned for Saturday in the downtown area. Details will be available as the September festival gets closer in time. Ms. Bowlin also mentioned that there is still plenty of openings for the golf scramble on July 22nd. The money raised at the golf scramble goes to help fund the activities during the Pony Wagon Days.

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Ervin to adjourn at 8:32 PM. Motion passed.

Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer

Brenda Cook, Mayor

Date