

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

May 18, 2021

Page 1 of 4

The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 8:08 P.M. 107 S. Main St., DeGraff, OH 43318.

Mayor Orsborne called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following Council Members and staff Present:

Mayor Stephanie Orsborne – Present
Sandra Short, Council Member – Present
Ruth Kueterman, Council Member – Present
Mike Dodds, President Pro Tempore – Present
Mike Ropp, Council Member – Present
Tom Rowley, Council Member – Present

Staff Present: Chief Chris Prickett, Police Chief; Kassandra Staley, Fiscal Officer; Chief Buck Reames, Fire Chief

Mr. Ropp made the motion to accept the May 4, 2021 minutes, seconded by Ms. Kueterman.

Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Visitors:

- ❖ Gary Pond – Mr. Pond explained that everything was set up for the Memorial Day parade. The parade will start at 10AM, and any veterans are welcome to come. There will be a 21 gun salute and a ride through the cemetery. After DeGraff's parade, they will also be doing the same in Quincy. All the flags are out at the cemetery, and the legion gets reimbursed for those. Mayor Orsborne asked about a phone number for the legion. As we have had some calls. Mr. Pond stated they should call Ron Helmlinger, he has agreed to continue to take the calls for the legion. The fire trucks will be in the parade and the police will lead the procession.

Zoning – Mayor Orsborne explained Mr. Orsborne is working on his 17th permit for the year. We are heading in a good direction.

Solicitor – No Report

Village Administrator – Mr. McAlexander gave Mayor Orsborne some items to cover.

- We have heard it is a definite on the new dump truck. There will be a \$13,000 grant and an \$80,000 loan. Will cost around \$4500 twice a year.
- Leak behind fire department is now fixed. It was outside the firehouse, and not inside. Working on finding the leak on Ellis St. to get that one fixed.
- There will be a new water tap going in at the school.
- The guys have went around and fixed the major pot holes and marked the ones that will be getting cut out and fixed. Quality paving is coming, but it may not be until August or later.
- The Village did not receive the records grant. After some discussion we will be hiring someone to come in and help us work on the records above the firehouse. Chief Prickett mentioned that the librarian needs to get 7 hours of community service in, asked if it was possible if she

wanted to help as well. Mayor Orsborne didn't think it would be a problem.

- The walking track is getting resealed. This issue with repaving is we cannot find a company with a 6 foot roller, they are now 8 foot roller.
- The wastewater treatment plant car was at Wren's Jeremy did not think he could fix it. The Vehicle was taken to Thor's and that mechanic thinks he can fix the vehicle. So the Villages has decided to let him try and fix it.
- The bracket for the one sewer pump is in. For the other sewer pump that needed the ole dug bigger, we are waiting on the guy to dig the hole. Things are moving along though.
- Poggemeyer is dragging their feet a bit. We are still waiting on blueprints. EPA is willing to expedite the project once the blueprints are received. Ms. Short asked if the easements are completed. Mayor Orsborne stated she heard they were.
- The drainage project to fix the flooding on the north end was not approved through the commissioners for sales tax money. The commissioners are willing to approve to fix the alley behind the post office, which is around \$10,000. Mr. McAlexander would like to get the drainage work done through the permissive account. Would cost around \$22,000.

Ms. Short made the motion to allow Mr. McAlexander to fix the drainage issue not to exceed \$25,000, seconded by Ms. Kueterman. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Safety- Mr. Dodds stated the committee would like to recommend for hire for the police Ms. Dawn Hunkler.

Mr. Dodds made the motion to hire Ms. Dawn Hunkler as a part time police officer, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Dodds continued going over the police report, attached to these minutes. He did explain about the purchase of the cloud system for the body camera. It would be a 5-year contract at \$60 month for the cloud system.

Mr. Rowley made the motion to purchase the 5-year contract at \$60 per month, seconded by Ms. Kueterman. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Adam Gammell was present from the Community Watch group. He will be placing a recruitment list at Village Hall for interested residents to sign up. They will have meetings every other month. Tanker 31 is having some break issues and both engines will be pump tested on Monday. The tornado siren is still out of service downtown. Chief Reames will be getting a fuse and fixing it.

Finance - Ms. Staley stated she would have a projected year end report at the next finance meeting. Mr. Rowley brought up he still has yet to receive his utility bill. Ms. Staley explained the post office is sending them to Columbus again, and we are having some issues.

Parks – Mr. Ropp mentioned about looking into putting sidewalks between the ball diamonds for wheelchair access. Ms. Kueterman stated we also need something to the bleachers. The Village could possibly look at getting grants for this. Mr. Dodds asked the parks if they had contacted the organization in Bellefontaine that helps makes parks handicap accessible. He stated he will

ask around for a contact. Mr. Rowley asked about the dumpster at the park. It was overflowing and could not put any trash in it. Ms. Staley explained they dump on Tuesday, maybe possibly looking at getting it dumped more in the spring and summer.

Cemetery- Mr. Dodds asked about a price on the old dump truck, since the Village will be purchasing a new one. We will need to ask the solicitor on legalities of the sale.

Joint Sewer Board- No Report.

Special Firehouse Committee- The committee has been on several tours and found some likes and dislikes. All the firehouses toured were building the last 3-5 years and price was 1.5-2 million. The village is probably looking at spending 2-2.5 million on a new firehouse. It was mentioned what would happen to the old building if we built a new one, council does not want to see it empty. Some people have inquired about it for a business, that would be discussed at a later date. The building are steel beam construction with the metal. Mr. Rowley stated he took away the importance of supervising the contractors.

Ordinance 2021-13: An Ordinance permanently amending the responsibilities, duties, and salary of the Village Fiscal Officer

Mr. Dodds made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-13, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Old Business: In old business, Ms. Short mentioned the Ordinances received by Mr. Wagner for the Village of Rushsylvania, she would like to see the council move forward with them. We would just need to change some wording between the Villages. Mr. Rowley asked about the filing fee, it was explained that typically the violator pays those fees plus attorney fees.

Ms. Short made the motion to move forward and have Mr. Wagner draw up the Ordinances for obnoxious weeds and junk vehicles, seconded by Ms. Kueterman. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

These will be at the next meeting to vote on and council can ask Mr. Wagner any questions.

New Business: In new business, Chief Prickett mentioned that the police department will be receiving a \$1000 grant from CIT mental health. This grant can be used in anyway he would like. Also, he asked what council was thinking about with the old police cruiser. Some items will still need to be stripped if considering selling. Mayor Osborne explained she has asked Mr. McAlexander to make a recommendation to council and go from there.

Ms. Short asked where everyone was at on the handbook. Mr. Rowley stated still reading. Mr. Rowley asked Ms. Staley to get the list of changes Mr. McAlexander has for Finance meeting. It was also mentioned we will discuss the proposal to change the police hours at the finance meeting. Chief Prickett will have been with the Village for a year as of June 5th.

Mayor Osborne explained about Ms. Sue Walls planting flowers and taking care of them around the Village. She had always been reimbursed by the Village for the flowers, she hasn't asked the last couple of years because of the financial issues. She provided Mayor Osborne with a receipt for \$39.95.

Ms. Short made the motion to reimburse Ms. Sue walls, seconded by Ms. Kueterman. MOTION REINDED.

Council decided to reimburse Ms. Walls though the flower fund controlled by the Mayor. Ms. Short mentioned possibly getting her a gift card or something at the end of the year.

Mayor Orsborne swore in new police officer Ms. Dawn Hunkler. The council gave her a warm welcome aboard.

Ms. Kueterman made the motion to pay bills, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes.
MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to adjourn at 8:08 PM, seconded by Mr. Ropp Roll Call – All Ayes.
MOTION

Mayor Stephanie Orsborne

Mike Dodds, Council Pro Tempore

Kassandra Staley, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL concerning and relating to the adoption of Ordinances, Resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.