

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

May 4, 2021

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The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 9:08 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; Ken McAlexander, Village Administrator; Zeb Wagner, Solicitor

Mr. Dodds made the motion to accept the April 20, 2021 minutes, seconded by Ms. Kueterman.

Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Visitors:

- ❖ Beth & Cy Noble – They was wanting to know about getting an easement on Village Property at the water tower location. He wants to put in a driveway around the garages and it would be on Village on property. He also asked about maybe purchasing part of the property the water tower sits on. He also asked if he should be mowing the part of the property he does. If he isn't allowed would like to keep it mowed, because it helps with mosquito control
 - ◆ Mr. McAlexander – He explained there is a long process to break the lean on the property. USDA, the loan holder, would have the ultimate say in releasing any land sole out there. Mr. McAlexander isn't opposed to talk with council about splitting the land at the water tower, however, he has a lot on his plate. He also explained he would probably need permission to mow the part he mows due to liability issues.
- ❖ Barbara Henry – Ms. Henry lives at 223 Ellis Street and she would like to address council about the property located at 225 Ellis Street. The home is in bad repair. The awning is down, spouting is down, and the roof has a hole in it. She is picking up pieces of roofing in her yard, just to be able to mow. She feels it is a safety hazard. Ms. Henry has also mowed the property several times. She has spoken to the owner to no avail. She is tired of living by an eyesore. Ms. Henry also asked about some spray paint and flags in her yard.
 - ◆ Mayor Orsborne explained she is not the only complaint she has received. The Chief of Police and zoning are working on Ordinances for neglected properties. Ms. Short had criticked the Ordinances presented at the last meeting and provided them to Mr. Wagner for his review. Mr. McAlexander explained the paint and flags in her yard. There is a water leak in front of her house that they will be fixing. The paint and flags are to mark the different utilities before they start digging.
- ❖ Gary Pond – Mr. Pond asked about the condition of the poles at the park that was to go for ball park lighting. He asked if there was a way to put the poles up and then have a special fund to add the lighting later.

- ◆ Ms. Short stated that if she remembered correctly the poles were bought with grant money. The project ended up being more expensive than council realized at the time.
- ❖ Kim Kies – On the southside of her house there used to be an alley. The alley has never been properly closed, but it hasn't been used in many years. Her neighbor said they shared the alley. Ms. Kies wants to put up a fence, but it would be in the alley.
 - ◆ Mr. McAlexander stated she could petition the Zoning Board of Appeals to close the alley. The fence cannot be put up until the alley is officially closed. The Village would still need an easement to the back for sanitary sewer. Mayor Orsborne has talked to a few people about the Zoning Board of Appeals. She still needs to appoint one more person. Mayor Orsborne will reach out to Mr. Jim Clevenger about having a meeting for the board.
- ❖ Jason Warner – Mr. Orsborne had stopped by his property about the possible alley out back of his property and a parking issue. Mr. Warner would like to see the alley cleaned up and usable. There is also a pole with a guide wire in his driveway. He also asked about cutting down a couple of trees in the alleyway.
 - ◆ Mr. McAlexander stated he would need to contact DP&L for the pole and guidewire in his driveway the Village has nothing to do with that. Mayor Orsborne stated they are talking about the alleys, but more priorities have come up. We would still need an easement for the sewer lines in the alley. Ms. Short said no work should be done in the alley unless Village for liability reasons. Mr. McAlexander assured Mr. Warner he would look at the alley situation by late spring for sure.

Zoning – Mr. Orsborne is working on 11 permits, but not all are complete yet.

Solicitor – No Report

Village Administrator – Mr. McAlexander spoke the following topics:

- The water tower inspection is completed. The written report will be coming. The coating on the tower is baked glass, one sheet has etching and it got cracked during installation. There was also not much sediment in the tower.
- All the catch basins around the Village have been cleaned out, except the state highways. Those will be done soon.
- Mill Street pump station wedge adaptor will not fit on the guides. Waiting on some more options to be able to drop the pump. The E. Miami St. pump station the base of the new pump will not fit into the hole.
- Backwash pit has been cleaned out, and it had quite a bit of iron.
- Leak detection around the Village is completed. The leak at the firehouse is outside in the gravel. The shut off valve will be changed when dug up, because it is not working 100%. Riverside schools will be adding a water tap at their maintenance building this spring/summer. Mr. McAlexander is waiting on a fitting for the tap.
- The Village needs to get a couple more years out of the highways before they are repaved in the spring of 2023. We have received some quotes from the Logan County Engineer on dura-patching. Total for the roads quotes is \$6,602.85. Mr. Ropp asked if it was the same company as before, because the job was not done well. Mr. McAlexander is trying to do different streets each year.

- Mr. McAlexander and Mr. Vondenhuevel both took their spray license. Mr. McAlexander passed the round-up spray portion, but not the dandelions portion. He is planning on retaking that part. Mr. Vondenhuevel did not pass.
- The A/C unit was fixed at Village Hall, when turned on was making a loud noise. While Regal was here they also checked the Police A/C unit, it was not working either.
- Mr. Vondenhuevel found that water was leaking in the back of the annex building. Mr. McAlexander reached out to Lee's roofing for an estimate to fix.
- There is an Ordinance tonight for PC's for People. They are wanting to put an antenna on the water tower for reception. It will go on the handrail, not on the actual tank.

Ms. Short asked Mr. McAlexander about the pole light being too bright on the water tower. Ms. Staley mentioned a customer had also come in and complained about the light being too bright. Mr. McAlexander is planning on going that way tonight to look at and evaluate.

Safety- Mr. Dodds mentioned of an hours report Chief Prickett presented. It was tabled at finance to discuss in safety.

Finance - Ms. Staley stated in the finance meeting they had went over some updated RITA reports. There are a couple new programs the council can opt into, and also the delinquent amount on taxes. The committee also discussed the handbook a little further and the upcoming fire contracts.

Mr. Rowley recommended to council that it be added no employee except police should be carrying a firearm while on duty. Mr. Wagner stated the Village would set their own policy, but it would be a liability if they were not law enforcement. It was mentioned they could lock their firearm in their glove box, if they were on a fire run. This section will be added to the handbook and the updated handbook will be approved as a whole. It was suggested that all of council should go through the handbook and make suggestions on changes.

Parks - The new keys for the bathroom have been changed. We need to get the correct license from the health department. The bags for the park did not fit in the containers. Mr. Rowley cleaned the cans out as best as he could. Maybe make a sign and place the bags on the shelves in the shelter house, because some are not coming back getting their trash bags. Mayor Osborne asked if we had heard a time frame from Hurley on the work at the extra parking lot. Mr. McAlexander is not sure and now he is thinking about using some money on Ellis Street tile work.

Cemetery- No report

Joint Sewer Board- Mr. Ropp went over Mr. Jacobs report from the meeting. It is attached to these minutes.

Special Firehouse Committee- Tour dates are set up for some facilities. This will give some ideas on likes, dislikes, and some direction for the firehouse.

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

Ms. Short made the motion to accept on second reading Ordinance 2021-13, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ordinance 2021-17: An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into a site agreement lease with PCs for People Ohio, LLC for wireless communication antennae on the Village of DeGraff, Ohio water tower and declaring an emergency in the Village of DeGraff, Ohio

Ms. Kueterman made the motion to suspend the 3 reading rule for Ordinance 2021-17, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to approve Ordinance 2021-17 on 1st and final reading, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Short made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-17, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All yes. MOTION

Old Business: In old business, Ms. Short brought up the junk vehicle and junk property ordinances. She does not want them to fall off to the side. She had made some comments and gave the Ordinances for Mr. Wagner to review. Mr. Wagner stated he had worked on some for the Village of Rushsylvania. He will email them to Ms. Staley to email to council. There should be two separate Ordinances for each issue. This will give the police a leg to stand on, if the matter goes to court.

New Business: Mayor Orsborne explained se received a letter from the Department of Commerce, that the council if wanted could petition any liquor license for rejection. There is also a current open license within the Village. Mayor Orsborne also mentioned that Community Health & Wellness will be bringing a mobile health unit to the Village, and it will be set up at the park.

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

Mr. Dodds made the motion to adjourn at 9:08 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.