

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION**

October 5, 2021

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The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:56 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 – Absent
- Mike Dodds, President Pro Tempore – Absent
- Mike Ropp, Council Member – Present
- Tom Rowley, Council Member – Present
- Teddy Zink, Council Member – Present

Staff Present: Chief Chris Prickett, Police Chief; Kassandra Staley, Fiscal Officer; Ken McAlexander, Village Administrator; Zeb Wagner, Solicitor

Mr. Rowley made the motion to excuse Mr. Dodds due to a death in the family, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to excuse Ms. Kueterman due to illness, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to accept the September 21,2021 minutes as written and submitted, seconded by Mr. Zink. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Visitors –

Gary Pond – Observe

Daniel Lyon – WPKO Observe

Pam Weese & Mike Elflein – Here to speak about the water situation at the home since the mom's passing. Water was in deceased name and would like to switch to keep water active. Mr. McAlexander said he would look through the utility rules and reach back out. The Village and the family should be able to come to a mutual agreement to keep water active.

Zoning – Mr. Orsborne is currently working on permit number 27 for the year.

Solicitor – No Report

Village Administrator – Mr. McAlexander went over the following topics with council:

- OWDA refinance loan of the water tower. Mr. McAlexander believes it would be beneficial and cost saving for the Village. The Village could look at saving over \$82,000 over the life of the loan. We could coordinate the selling of some of the land at the same time as the refinance. Ms. Short is in favor of selling the additional land. Mr. Rowley stated he would like to Village to at least get fair market value for the land.

Ms. Short made the motion to table the land discussion until further research is done, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

- Mr. McAlexander stated that the water plant blue prints are still not through the EPA
- The ARP funds submitted through the county the Village came back #8 and the top 5 were only submitted for funding.
- The CBDG funding for the water main line was not accepted. So, Access Engineering is submitting the project through the ARP Funds.
- Mr. McAlexander has some sewer work going to be getting done on tree roots in the sewer lines.
- The water leak at 1020 S. Main is a private issue and should be completed by the end of the week. There are also two hydrants leaking and we are waiting on rebuild quotes. The high service pumps at the water treatment plant will need to be rebuilt, could cost between \$5000 and \$6000.
- Mr. McAlexander still needs to reach out to Mr. Steven's for switching the easement for the new well at the water treatment plant.

Utility – Ms. Short mentioned that there is nothing in our Ordinance about tampering with meters. She would like to see an offense scale imposed. Ms. Short would like the first offense be a \$250.00 fine for tampering, then if it happens again they are cited for a criminal offense. Council believes there should be a deterrent other than court. Council does believe it should be taken seriously.

Ms. Short made the motion to change the Ordinance to specify the offense scale for tampering with the meters, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Council mentioned that we should send a letter letting all residents know of the offense schedule to help deter them from tampering.

Ms. Staley mentioned paystar would be live on the 13<sup>th</sup> for the Village.

Safety – Chief Prickett let council know that Ms. Dawn Hunkler has resigned for medical duties. Ms. Hunkler hopes once the medical issues are resolved she can reapply. At next meeting will be speaking on a recruitment plan and budget for 2022. Chief Prickett would like to get where the Village is receiving 32 hours per week police coverage.

Finance – Ms. Staley let council know appropriations are looking good, so far. There is an Ordinance on tonight for first reading to write off the Village Utility Bills that were charged incorrectly. Ms. Staley reminded all committees to have wish lists for appropriations work at the next council meeting.

Parks – Mr. Rowley explained that the concession stand wall was completed today by Dash Builders. Dash will also be submitting a quote for the handicap accessibility pad for the ball diamonds.

Cemetery – No report.

Joint Sewer Board- Mr. Ropp went over the report provided by Mr. Jacob, attached to minutes. The vehicle is not running again. Mayor Orsborne explained that she would need a motion from council to purchase a new vehicle at the Joint Sewer Plant.

Ms. Short made the motion to allow the Joint Sewer Board Committee to purchase vehicle not to exceed \$10,000, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Special Firehouse Committee – No report. Committee is still waiting to find a structural engineer.

Resolution 2021-36: A Resolution approving the write-off of non-billed village utility accounts billed to various village administrative offices for purposes of correct accounting.

Ms. Short made the motion to accept on 1<sup>st</sup> reading Resolution 2021-36, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Old Business: Ms. Short gave council a condensed list of properties needing attention. Residents are making progress. Ms. Short stated that Chief Prickett talking with the residents was helping, she encouraged him to keep doing that.

Mayor Orsborne let council read the resignation letter of Ms. Dawn Hunkler.

Mr. Rowley made the motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Dawn Hunkler, seconded by Mr. Zink. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

New Business: Ms. Staley asked council when the park would be closing, for purposes of the shelter house rental. Mr. McAlexander stated the water would be shut off October 31<sup>st</sup>, unless the weather changed beforehand.

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

Mr. Ropp made the motion to adjourn at 7:56 PM, seconded by Ms. Short Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

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Mayor Stephanie Orsborne

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Mike Dodds, Council Pro Tempore

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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.

