

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

March 21, 2023

PAGE 1 OF 4

The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 8:28 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
Mike Dodds, Council Member – Present
Mike Ropp, Council Member – Present
Tom Rowley, Council Member – Present
Nancy Hall, Council Member – Present
Sandra Short, President Pro Tempore – Present
Tonya Castallante, Council Member - Absent

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

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the reading and accept the March 7, 2023 minutes, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the reading and accept the March 14, 2023 minutes, seconded by Mr. Ropp. Roll Call – All ayes. MOTION

Visitors –

Gabe Kean – Mr. Kean was asking about the write off utility account ordinance. Ms. Staley explained they are the accounts from the fraud investigations. Some accounts were past the statute of limitations, some are below the amount to take to court, and some were fraud. The Accounts have tried to be collected on for 2 years to no avail.

Tom Stephens – On behalf of the Bellefontaine Examiner to observe
Darin Robinaugh – On behalf of Robinaugh EMS to observe

Zoning – Mr. McAlexander mentioned the property clean up form change. Mr. Wagner stated he would like to look at and make sure they are in conjunction with the Village Ordinances. Also, if county is going to hear any cases maybe get their advice on what they would like to see on the form. Mayor Orsborne stated there are four properties in the village that are in condemnable status and would like to see how to move forward. Mr. Wagner stated he would look into it.

Solicitor – No Report.

Village Administrator – Mr. McAlexander went over the following items:

- Water treatment plant update: Should be getting an Ordinance before next meeting to have the project bid go out in April. There is one sheet to finish then will be going to DEFA for financing.
- Water main project blueprints should be coming. The Commissioners have released the funding for the project. Monday they will be soil borings for limestone.
- CCR has been drafted paper copies will be available in the office and link will be put on utility bills and an ad in the paper.
- Mill St. pump station had the spare pump installed. Station has been fully converted now to the new pump system. There is no spare on the shelf now though. New pump will be \$14,979.52. Mr. McAlexander recommends the council purchase one for the shelf, because it does take time to get and that is the station that sends the waste to Quincy.
- Working on air release valves on force main. The manholes have been full of water. The parts are on hand and they will be fixing tomorrow.
- Berm work on South Main will be getting completed in the next couple of weeks.
- Paving project will be after July.
- Cleaned up the side of the fire department where the building was torn down. Have a company come look at tomorrow to inspect it.
- Mr. Rowley asked about adding 4 trash cans downtown because of the new eateries in the village. This will allow people more places to dispose of trash. He mentioned could take some trash cans from the park. Mr. McAlexander will look into.
- Mr. Rowley also asked about renting a chipper for spring cleanup. Mr. McAlexander stated he would have a date by the next meeting.

Ms. Short made the motion to purchase the pump for the shelf at Mill St. Pump station, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Utility Committee – No Report

Safety Committee – Ms. Short mentioned the following:

- Fire house pool filling: People are paying for water, but there is no established delivery charge. She mentioned possibly \$50 in corp and \$100 within 3 miles. Mr. Ropp and Mr. Rowley thought it was too high and mentioned \$25 in corp and \$50 within 3 miles. Mr. Wagner stated the committee should investigate other companies charges for the same service and to be competitive.
- Mr. Short mentioned the sick leave for Chief Brent linger maybe only bringing 25% the 3 weeks of vacation are fine. Discussion was tabled until Mr. Wagner could look into the legalities.

Mayor Orsborne stated the Village had publicly advertised for sealed bids for EMS coverage for the Village. Mr. Chad Kean was present to present for Riverside EMS, but he did not have a sealed bid. Mr. Wagner wanted to look up the Statue on sealed bid requirements.

Ms. Short made the motion to take a brief recess at 7:42 pm, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Ropp left at 8:00 pm due to work requirements.

Ms. Short made the motion to exit the recess at 8:05 pm, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Wagner explained the statue states the bids must be opened by the village administrator and he can extend the bidding if done within 96 hours of the bid ending. He also has the ability to reject any bids. Any other bids cannot be considered. ORC reference 731.141 & 731.15

Mr. McAlexander opened the following:

- A letter from Indian Lake EMS there is no determination for coverage, however, they will still provide mutual aid coverage.
- Robinaugh EMS – Two options. Option one would be a full-time dedicated squad in the district, the village would need to form a district, with an annual 3% increase. Cost \$596,911.20 Option two would still be a district, but they would run out of their Bellefontaine location for a cost of \$578,787.20.

Mayor Orsborne asked the safety committee to look over and discuss with Mr. McAlexander.

Finance – Ms. Staley mentioned the following:

- Ordinance to correct traffic offences for Mayor’s court & Mr. Wagner’s contract renewal
- Finances look good as the Village hasn’t been spending money

Park Committee – Mr. Rowley stated Gretna Brother Church would like to use the park on Wednesday June 7th through August 9th from 11 am – 1:30 pm for the lunches at the park.

Mr. Rowley made the motion to allow Gretna church to use the park, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

A couple of the tarps that cover the dugout has gotten ruined We may need to look at replacing them. Ms. Walls is still thinking about if she would like to take care of the bathrooms this year. The Maintenance guys can power wash the floor when the water is turned on. Mr. Rowley asked the Mayor would it be alright if he reached back out to Republic Services to see about a follow up on the park equipment they discussed with the Village last year. Mayor Orsborne didn’t have an issue with him doing that.

Cemetery – No Report.

Joint Sewer Board- Mr. Rowley forgot to mention at the last meeting the board approved to give Mr. Leiss \$1 per hour raise.

Special Firehouse Committee – 2nd Tuesday in April, and this will be the last meeting before the levy.

Ordinances & Resolutions:

Ordinance 2023-16: An Ordinance providing compensation and employing a village solicitor for the Village of DeGraff, Logan County, Ohio for a one year term beginning April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2024

Mr. Rowley made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2023-16, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to accept Ordinance 2023-16 on first and final reading, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Castellante made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-16 on third and final reading, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ordinance 2023-20: Amending Ordinance 2023-17 schedule of fines for traffic violations for the Village of DeGraff, Ohio and declaring an emergency

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2023-20, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Castellante made the motion to accept Ordinance 2023-20 on first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-20 on third and final reading, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Resolution 2023-19: A Resolution approving the write off of utility accounts for purposes of correct accounting

Ms. Short made the motion to accept Resolution 2023-19 on second reading only, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Old Business: None

New Business: Ms. Short made the motion to make community wide garage sales the first Saturday in June, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

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

Ms. Short made the motion to adjourn at 8:28 PM, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mayor Stephanie Orsborne

Sandra Short, 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.

