

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

The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session on May 20th, 2025 from 7:00 P.M. to 7:57 P.M. 107 S. Main St., DeGraff, OH 43318.

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

Mayor Stephanie Orsborne – Present
Sue Walls, Council Member – Present
Gabe Kean, President Pro Tempore – Present
Nancy Hall, Council Member – Present
Sandra Short, Council Member – Present
Tom Rowley, Council Member – Present
Heidi Duckro, Council Member – Present

Staff Present: Greg Beatty – Fire Chief

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the reading and accept the May 6th, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All ayes. **MOTION**

Visitors – Mr. Mike Madden was present at this meeting. He wanted to discuss keeping the Riverside EMS 501C3 active for the preservation of Riverside EMS. He doesn't want to see the Village profit off of Riverside EMS. It was explained that that wasn't something that they could decide and that he needed to talk with the Trustees of Riverside EMS. Mrs. Orsborne explained that she believes in the lease, if there is a merger, then it no longer can be leased to Riverside EMS and reverts back to the Village of DeGraff. Mr. Madden made a records request for the lease agreement between Riverside and the Village of DeGraff. Kaitlyn stated she would work on that records request. The council discussed that if the building comes back to the Village, that the lease price will be based off of what the costs will be to the Village, they are not wanting to make a profit, they are only wanting to cover their costs.

Zoning – No update

Solicitor – He created the Ordinances that we requested and they will be discussed later in the meeting.

Village Administrator – Mrs. Orsborne stated Mr. McAlexander wanted her to inform the council that the sidewalks on Koke Street should be poured next week and then landscaping will follow. Asphalt to fix the roads and also the walking track will also be asphalted next week.

Safety Committee

Fire:

- YTD Fire Department has had 18 runs; 6 structure fires, 7 accidents, and 5 others -basement floods and gas line strikes; with 8 mutual aid runs given and 6 mutual aid runs received.
- Wrens has not yet done maintenance on the vehicles.
- SCBA flow testing – All passed. Batteries were added to the order by Fire Safety, this is not something that was asked for, Fire Safety just added them for the SCBAs. Kaitlyn Bailey stated Mr. McAlexander gave permission to pay for the additional batteries.
- Pumps passed flow testing.
- Respiratory Fit testing still needs to be scheduled.
- Engine 32 still has a leak, losing about ¼ of a tank every 2 weeks. Mr. Beatty said that Fire Safety did not mention anything about the leak when they did pump testing.
- Mr. Beatty has received 2 quotes for a pumper/tanker with commercial chassis, 1500 gpm with 3250-gal tank. Estimated to be around \$650-750,000 dollars and this is only for the pumper/tanker, not any additional equipment needed. Could contract with Gatchell Grant

Resources for a FEMA grant for a new tanker, it is \$850 up front and then not to exceed \$3500 if the grant is received.

Police: Mrs. Orsborne stated she did negotiate with Mr. Brentlinger on the price of selling him the dog in the price of \$5000.00, with Mr. Brentlinger agreeing to that price. Mr. Wagner wrote up an ordinance regarding the selling of the dog/property.

Mrs. Orsborne stated in her opinion if they decide to contract with the Logan County Sheriff's Department, that it may be a good idea to keep the equipment and vehicles for a year, to see how the contracting goes and if there is a problem, they could still have their own police department, if they keep the equipment and vehicle. The Council discussed that if they decided to contract with the Logan County Sheriff's Department, what all would they provide? Would they be willing to help the Zoning Officer? Could they provide services for 20 hours per week?

Ms. Short made the motion for Ms. Orsborne and Mr. Kean to sit down with Randall Dodds to discuss a proposal for the Logan County Sheriffs department to provide police services within DeGraff, seconded by Ms. Hall. All Ayes

MOTION

Finance

- Kaitlyn stated that if the council decided to contract with the Logan County Sheriff's Department, then she would cancel those services specific to the Police Department, so that they didn't pay unneeded invoices. She stated she would wait until after they decided what they would like to do in regard to police.
- Kaitlyn stated she would need to reallocate funds, but that the past reallocations and the future reallocations are listed in an ordinance, so she would explain further when they got to the ordinances.
- Ms. Short said she went over the minutes for 2024 and was not able to find the name of the gentleman who finds money for Villages.

Park Committee

- Ms. Short communicated the following:
 - Health inspection was good
 - She asked if they had found someone to mow and clean the bathrooms at the park. Mrs. Orsborne stated they are hiring someone; his name is Pat and he used to be Lakeview's Administrator.
 - She asked about if the maintenance workers could take care of emptying the trash cans after the games. Mr. Rowley stated that it is the Ball Association's responsibility to empty the trash after the games. She said that they would inform the Ball Association that they needed to empty the trash each evening.
 - She also asked about when mosquito spraying would be occurring and Mrs. Orsborne stated she was unsure and that she would talk with Mr. McAlexander.
- Mr. Rowley stated he fills the toilet paper at the park. It was discussed that the Ball Association and the new hire could take care of filling the toilet paper. Mr. Rowley stated he would continue to take care of filling the toilet paper.
- Mrs. Orsborne asked if Ms. Short could inform the Ball Association that they need to talk to the coaches and let them know that when the walking track is being repaved, if they could make sure the kids stay away from the equipment and the track.

Cemetery

- Ms. Short stated the mowing contract was renewed with Brad, who had done it last year.
- Ms. Short said that there is a tire at the cemetery and she asked if that could be removed by the maintenance workers. Mrs. Orsborne asked Mrs. Bailey to speak with the maintenance workers about removing the tire.

Joint Sewer Board

- Ms. Walls stated that the next meeting will be on June 2nd at 1 pm at the Community Building in Quincy.

Ordinances & Resolutions:

Ordinance 18-2025: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

- Mr. Kean made the motion to accept Ordinance 18-2025 on the second reading, seconded by Ms. Hall.
Roll Call – All Ayes

MOTION

Ordinance 2025-19: AN ORDINANCE REALLOCATING FUNDS FROM APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND AMENDING THE APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR PURPOSES PAYING OPERATING EXPENSES FROM APPROPRIATED FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO.

- Mrs. Bailey explained that she was informed by Mr. Wagner, the Village Solicitor that reallocation of funds needs to occur in an ordinance, not a motion. So, Mrs. Bailey has included the previous motions for reallocation of funds in this ordinance, plus the new reallocations needed to pay for natural gas for the police department for this month's invoice plus the remainder of the year. She also asked for a reallocation of funds for tax collection fees for multiple accounts so should could correctly enter the property tax funds received by the County Auditor.

Mrs. Duckro made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-19, seconded by Ms. Walls. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to accept Ordinance 2025-19, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Mrs. Duckro made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-19, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ordinance 2025-20: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO.

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-20, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Walls made the motion to accept Ordinance 2025-20, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-20, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ordinance 2025-21: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND CREATING TWO (2) PART-TIME UTILITY CLERK POSITIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO, REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCE NO. 20-40, AND AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF SAID NEW PART-TIME POSITIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO.

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-21, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Wall made the motion to accept Ordinance 2025-21, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Mr. Rowley made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-21, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ordinance 2025-22: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SALVAGE OR DISCARD VILLAGE PROPERTY PURSUANT TO R.C. 721.15(C) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO.

Mr. Kean made the motion to suspend the 3-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-22, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Short made the motion to accept Ordinance 2025-22, seconded by Mrs. Duckro. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Hall made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-22, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Old Business:

Potential Farm Animal Ordinance was discussed again. It was discussed whether this was something that had to be put in as an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or if would be a regular ordinance. Ms. Short made the motion to accept the potential farm animal ordinance with the changes and have Zeb review the updated potential Farm Animal Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Rowley. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION**New Business:**

Ms. Walls found a Hometown grant from T-Mobile for \$50,000. This was given to Ms. Short to further investigate to see if they can apply for it.

Kaitlyn presented the information from the RITA email she received. It is a delinquency program with both a letter campaign to non-filing taxpayers and an administrative subpoena to those who do not respond to the letters.

Ms. Short made the motion to choose option two, which authorizes RITA to send a non-filing delinquent letter to non-filing taxpayers and administrative subpoenas to those who do not respond to the letters at a price of \$1 per subpoena issued, seconded by Mrs. Duckro. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Short asked what was happening with the properties in DeGraff with tall grass. Ms. Orsborne stated that we have letters that can be sent certified that let the homeowner know they have so many days to mow it, or that the Village will mow it and assess it to their taxes. She informed Mrs. Bailey that there should be copies of this letter that she can use to send to these property owners.

Mrs. Orsborne stated that the Zoning Officer has been working with Michael White, a property owner on Koke/Ellis Street to get the property cleaned up.

Mrs. Bailey said that she received a letter from the Logan County Land Reutilization Corporation about submission of buildings for demolished. She said she spoke with Mr. McAlexander and that he didn't believe there were any buildings that needed demolished at this time.

Mrs. Bailey said that the Cemetery Levy expires this year. It is currently at 0.7 mills which generates \$9500.00. Mrs. Bailey stated that she needed to contact Jack Reser to let him know if they wanted to proceed with the levy, for how many mills and for how many years.

Ms. Hall made the motion to move forward with the levy and for Mrs. Bailey to contact Mr. Reser regarding moving forward with the levy at 0.7 mills for 5 years for the cemetery, seconded by Ms. Short.

MOTION

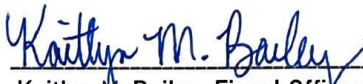
Ms. Short made the motion to pay bills, seconded by Mrs. Duckro. Roll Call – All Ayes

MOTION

Mr. Kean made the motion to adjourn at 7:57 PM, seconded by Mrs. Duckro. Roll Call – All Ayes. **MOTION**


Mayor Stephanie Orsborne


Gabe Kean, Council Pro Tempore


Kaitlyn M. Bailey, 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.