

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION

February 6, 2024

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The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 8:20 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
Gabe Kean, Council Member – Present
Tom Rowley, Council Member – Absent
Nancy Hall, Council Member – Present
Sandra Short, President Pro Tempore – Present
Tonya Castellante, Council Member – Present

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

Mayor Orsborne read a letter of resignation from Mr. Tom Rowley due to health issues.

Ms. Castellante made the motion to accept the resignation from Mr. Rowley with regret, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Dodds made the motion to suspend the reading and accept the January 16, 2024 minutes, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All ayes. MOTION

Visitors –

Sarah Shultz & Becky Lentz – They are from the playground boosters and was wanting to ask council for permission to use the park for ball games this summer. In addition, Mr. Jeremy Davis and Mr. Darek Zook wanted to know if they could use the park from July – August for games as well. Also mentioned was some confusion with the restrooms last year. Mayor Orsborne mentioned that they were just looking for the ball association to tidy up the bathrooms at the end of the night. Ms. Lentz mentioned maybe putting cameras up.

Ms. Short made the motion to allow the boosters & Mr. Davis and Mr. Zook to use the park, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Zoning – Mr. Orsborne is currently working on two permits.

Solicitor – No Report.

Village Administrator – Mr. McAlexander went over the following:

- Provided to council was the annual flow reports for both the water and wastewater. Wastewater is 3% of flow capacity away from EPA guidelines. Will possibly need to look at I&I or expansion.
- CBDG engineering will be this summer and go out to bid late fall.
- After the CBDG Wastewater fixes we will need to do some exploring to find other areas to fix. The grant is fixing the worst areas we know about. Sump pumps will be getting addressed on the North end of town.
- Water plant project is progressing. The clear well is in progress.
- Water Main project is ongoing. The 1st tie in was today, there will still be 5 other tie ins over the next 2-3 weeks. There is a problem at the bridge with the water main. Fiber optic cables were not marked so the pipe can not go where original thought. Still working on a solution on how to handle, boring under the railroad will be costly. We could possibly excavate the creek will also be an additional cost. May need to look at the last 200' later. After all hooks we will run a flow test on what we can and cannot do.
- Been working on air release valves on wastewater. The capacity fell off on the pipeline and believe it is due to air lock.
- The Village has been awarded a grant for \$9,448 to purchase valve turning equipment.
- Electric Aggregation has switched to Electric Priority Power Management. Mr. Wagner will look over the contract and get back with council.
- The county is paving County Road 11 and they have offered for a cost of \$8,357 to pave from the bridge to the corporation limit on E. Miami. Mr. McAlexander stated we could use sales tax money to cover the cost. Council agreed it was a good idea and under Mr. McAlexander' s budget to approve.
- Meter update – Neptune came out to do a test and found out our heads will not work on anything. Still looking at additional options.
- Utility committee looked at rate increases for water and sewer. Mr. McAlexander stated we needed to at the minimum do \$1 on both water and sewer. Sewer is more of a concern. We are hoping the CBDG will help with help with some flow rates. We will also need to look at another small increase next year.

Mr. Kean made the motion to raise the water \$1 and sewer \$1.50, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes.

MOTION

Safety Committee – No Report.

Finance – Ms. Staley mentioned the following:

- Permanent appropriations is on the agenda
- Gave council a paper showing the increase in the sweep account interest

Park Committee – Ms. Castellante went over the following:

- Looking at charging a \$50 rental fee with \$15 back if the area was cleaned up. This will help cover supplies, electricity and upgrades at the park. Ms. Short mentioned about possibly giving residents a break that live within the Village. Discussion was tabled for now.
- The committee also looked at hi-ring a part time person for mowing the park, cleaning the restrooms and emptying the trash. It would be for \$15 per hour from April – September. We did put the money in the appropriations in case council wanted to pursue.

Cemetery – No Report.

Joint Sewer Board- Mr. Dodds mentioned the following:

- Mercury levels continue to be in range. Mr. Coy will be applying for a permit modification.
- Mr. Rowley asked about a raise for Mr. Coy. Mayor Orsborne stated they would bring that up at the next board meeting.

Ordinances & Resolutions:

Ordinance 2024-02: An Ordinance authorizing and creating a part-time seasonal employee for the village of Degraff, Ohio and authorizing the hiring of said new part-time seasonal position and declaring an emergency in the Village of Degraff, Ohio

Mr. Dodds made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Ordinance 2024-02, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Short made the motion to accept Ordinance 2024-02 on the first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castellante made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-02 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Mr. Dodds. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance making a permanent appropriation of monies for the current expenses and other expenditures (the operating budget) of the village of Degraff, Logan county, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 and declaring an emergency

Mr. Kean made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Ordinance 2024-03, seconded by Mr. Dodds. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Short made the motion to accept Ordinance 2024-03 on the first and final reading, seconded by Mr. Dodds. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Mr. Dodds made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-03 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Ms. Castellante. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance authorizing the village administrator and/or mayor to apply for and accept an Ohio EPA h2oh grant for initial cost of valve exercising, leak detection, and meter accuracy testing equipment and declaring an emergency

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Ordinance 2024-04, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Mr. Dodds made the motion to accept Ordinance 2024-04 on the first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castellante made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-04 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Resolution 2024-05: Fire Protection Contract for Harrison Township, Champaign County, Ohio

Mr. Dodds made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Resolution 2024-05, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castellante made the motion to accept Resolution 2024-05 on the first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Short made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-05 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Mr. Dodds. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Resolution 2024-06: Fire Protection Contract for Miami Township, Logan County, Ohio

Ms. Short made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Resolution 2024-06, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Mr. Dodds made the motion to accept Resolution 2024-06 on the first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Short made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-06 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Mr. Dodds. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Resolution 2024-07: Fire Protection Contract for Union Township, Logan County, Ohio

Mr. Dodds made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Resolution 2024-07, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castellante made the motion to accept Resolution 2024-07 on the first and final reading, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castellante made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-07 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call – All Ayes. MOTION

Resolution 2024-08: A Resolution in support of the application by the board of Logan County commissioners for a capital budget request and/or the one-time strategic community investment fund (OTSCIF) request for the Urbana-Bellefontaine connector of the Simon Kenton Trail: To pave a final course of hot-mix asphalt; perform work to resolve geometric and drainage issues; and, add bike path railing where warranted by the technical memorandum.

Ms. Castallante made the motion to suspend the 3-rule reading for Resolution 2024-08, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION
Ms. Castallante made the motion to accept Resolution 2024-08 on the first and final reading, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION
Mr. Dodds made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08 on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Ms. Castallante. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

Old Business:

- Ms. Short asked about the tear down of the Easton Property. The demolition grant is available through the land bank.

Ms. Short made the motion to apply for the Demo grant for the Easton property, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

New Business:

Mr. Dodds made the motion to enter executive session with all present at 7:57 pm to discuss personnel issues at the Joint Sewer Plant, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Dodds made the motion to exit executive session with no action taken at 8:05 pm, seconded by Ms. Hall. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

Mr. Dodds made the motion is approve a 3% raise for the Joint sewer plant operator, seconded by Ms. Short. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

Ms. Castallante made the motion to charge a \$50 shelter house rental fee with \$15 back for clean-up, seconded by Mr. Kean. Roll Call - All Ayes. MOTION

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

Ms. Short made the motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM, seconded by Mr. Kean. 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.