

# **THE VILLAGE OF RUSHVILLE COUNCIL MONTH: January**

**Meeting Date: January 12, 2023    Start Time: 6:00 PM    End Time: 7:52 PM**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Employees</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Paul Norby, Mayor</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Cindy Lewis</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Lillian Roderick</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Jon Browning</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jennifer Henery</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Kate Poston</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Village Historian</b>	
<b>Ken Dean</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Matt Schweitzer</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>John Burge</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Steve Burge</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Village of Rushville Council was called into Regular Session by Mayor Paul Norby at the Town Hall.

**VISITORS:** Bill Meyers, Village maintenance employee, on behalf of himself and Matt, wanted to thank Council for the raise. He discussed the need for some parts and also said that they have had issues with several of the new floats. Cindy said that we need to talk with USA Bluebook as we have used a couple hundred of them with almost no problem and it appears we are now having a problem. Bill also reported that at the Lagoons there are three trees down on the fence. Weather permitting, they will get them pulled out next week. We need to replace the aerator. Paul said that he thought we had already done that. It is our responsibility to do that, but Fairfield County Utilities would assist.

**OPENING COMMENTS:** Matt brought up some of the Facebook conversations regarding the car break ins. Wanted to make sure that Council is aware of it. The thief has been caught. Lillian said that the office is Deputy Guseman. Paul suggested that we post that so that people who lost items could contact him.

Mayor Norby noted that long term resident Anna Mac Baker passed away last Monday. Her health was failing terribly over a long term. Jennifer said that the service is tomorrow.

**MINUTES:** Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded, to approve the December meeting minutes. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Ordinance Outlining New Taps-** Paul said that this will be done by the new Water/Sewer Committee. He told Jon that he never received the information from Eric Sandine outlining how to price this out. Jon said that he would contact Eric. Our tap rates are way too low, and we need to be sure that we cover our costs.

**Mason Building/Town Hall-** Steve said the he, John, & Matt have a meeting on Sunday to review the ownership issues, the renovation plans, the financing of the plans, and security updates. Matt has already purchased a new padlock and furnished keys.

**Paving Update-** Jennifer said that we are waiting for the OWDA decisions on the loan application. In other related street issues, she said that AEP has approved 9 new street lights and will be installing them. They did not approve the one at the southeast corner of 664 as they don't own that pole. Jennifer said that AEP does need a letter that Council approves the lights before they install them. Jennifer moved, and Lillian seconded, to approve the nine new lights. Motion passed.

**Pump Station Generator Ordinance 1-2023-** An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Clerk to Place a Notice in Accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Requesting Bids for the Award of a Contract to Purchase and Install a Backup Generator and Declaring an Emergency. Jennifer moved, and Steve seconded, to suspend the rules. Motion passed. Jennifer moved, and Steve seconded, to pass the ordinance. Motion passed.

**Billing Software-** Cindy said that she sat with Tina, Lydia, and John (the programmer) and changed all accounts to the new rates. Once all of that is processed, we will transfer to the new billing system. People will then be able to pay bills on the website. She will give Matt the contact to set that up.

**Church/Community Center Update-** Paul has officially been granted tile to replace the roof. The tile is valued at \$60,000, and we can probably sell the slate for something. He has spoken to John Vandermark about the wood repair. The next step is to find money, which will be a project of the Funds Committee. Kate asked about the long-term plans for the building. Paul said a community center for the residents and a meeting place. Matt asked if the \$20,000 grant from Fairfield County Foundation would be a part of this. Paul said that would be the first thing to pursue, but we would have to round that out with fundraising. We will need a community member to set up a 501C3. Paul said that Colby had set one up but he didn't know if he would be interested. Matt said that he had talked to Colby and he would be open to it but would have to talk to his attorney. Matt said that he would also be willing to do that specifically for Village historical projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinance 2-2023-** An Ordinance to Amend Street Maintenance Fund (2011) Appropriations Dated December 12, 2022. This is necessary in order to purchase a snow plow for the tractor. Steve moved, and Jennifer moved, to pass the Ordinance. Motion passed.

**Loughman Residence-** Paul said that he had expected one of them to attend the meeting. Since February 2022, they have burned up 3 pumps. There are photos of the trash in the tank when Joe has come to pump it out. Jon has sent them bills for the second two incidents, as they occurred after the passage of the Sewer Ordinance. Jon sent a letter to

them, and he got a letter back. She said that they have lived there for over ten year, and it's only been in the last year that there has been a problem. The crew that was out here told me that it can only have come from her house. She says that they don't use those products. Jon told her to come to the meeting tonight. Paul asked if it is Councils' wish that Jon proceed with the billing for two pumps and associated costs. Council agreed.

**Operator of Record-** Frank Fondale is no longer the Operator of Record. We are in a contract to utilize the Operator that Bremen uses, and we get billed monthly for that. In the eyes of the EPA, we are still in charge of that person, and we have to notify them of that change. This puts us in a little bit of a quandry as Bremen has told us that we should not direct that Operator. Jon asked why we can't direct them. Bremen says that we have a contract with them so that they can direct the Operator of Record. Paul said we don't have the signature of the new Operator of Record, so we can't pass an Ordinance. We will put that on the agenda of the Special meeting. There is an opportunity for us to bring Frank back as our Operator of Record. We are not in a long-term contract; it is just an extension. Steve said that it is just one less thing that we have to deal with.

**Pump Station Repairs-** Paul asked Steve to discuss his conversations with Bremen regarding the pump station. Steve said that he went to Bremen and talked with Bill Robinette and Randy. They have buried all of the old hatchets. They know about our previous issues and personalities, but they are happy to move forward and help us in any way that they can. One of their concerns, and rightfully so, is the deterioration of the parking area. The gravel has washed away, and there is a large gutter there that makes it impossible to get in and out safely. Bremen has a contractor that have worked with before, and Bill is going give us the contact to get an estimate on cleaning it up, putting in a culvert, and making it safer. We have an issue with both pumps. One has leaking seals, and the other has some type of internal fault which trips a safety, which does shut it down. It is the oldest pump. And just for good measure the water meter is broken. Bill gave the number of a contractor than can fix all three issues. The meter can be repaired; we don't have to buy a new one. Steve asked Jon how we can move forward with approving these repairs without a Village Administrator before the next Council meeting. Cindy said that we do have money appropriated for repairs and maintenance. But Jon said we don't have a Village Administrator. Paul said that we are going to have to have a Special Meeting to pass an Ordinance to appoint a Village Administrator.

**Executive Session- Ken moved, and Jennifer seconded, to go into Executive Session. Motion passed at 7:10 PM. The subject of the session was the position of Village Administrator. Jennifer moved, and Steve seconded, to exit Executive Session. Motion passed at 7:48 PM.**

**PAY BILLS- Steve moved, and John seconded, to pay any and all bills. Motion passed.**

**ADJOURN- John moved, and Ken seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.**

**Signed by:**

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**Paul Norby, Mayor**

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**Cindy Lewis, Clerk Treasurer**