

VILLAGE OF RUSHVILLE COUNCIL MEETING MONTH: July

Meeting Date: July 13, 2023

Time Start: 6:00 PM

Time End: 7:19 PM

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

The Village of Rushville Council was called into Regular Session by Mayor Paul Norby at the Town Hall

WELCOME VISITORS- Open floor for community concerns/comments- Mayor Norby welcomed Mark Sheets, 8685 Main Street. He has concerns with the smoke coming from Wogan's property with all of the burning wood. He said that they can't leave windows open; their cars are covered with soot; and he is concerned about things like poison ivy in the wood being burned which can be toxic. John said to call the sheriff's office, and they will call the fire department. There was discussion about EPA rules & Ohio Basic Codes. Paul said that it is illegal to operate a dump without a license. Jon said a person can't create a public nuisance. He said to start with the fire department. Cindy said that she has had numerous complaints from residents. She said that she has contacted them before, and they did nothing. John said at this point, the best thing is to call the sheriff's office. They will call the fire department, and they have to respond.

Billy Myers- Co-Village Administrator reported that during the first six months of the year, they have replaced 18 pumps and 24 sets of new floats. Each set requires three floats. He also said that the rebuilt pumps are not actually rebuilt. They just rewind the motors. Steve has been working with them to find parts to replace. He said that they have begun exercising the valves. They have had to clean out dirt and grit just to get to the valves. They have identified 25 valves. Kate said that the critical valves need to be exercised every year, and non-critical every five years.

Resignation of Lillian Roderick as Council President- Lillian said that due to the impending birth of her baby, she doesn't feel that she will be able to fulfill the duties. She will retain her position as Council Member. Paul asked for nominations for Council President. Jennifer moved, and Steve seconded, to elect John Burge as Council President. Motion passed, with John abstaining.

Resignation of Paul Norby as Mayor- Paul said that his continuing health issues have made him unable to perform the duties as he should. President of Council, John Burge, becomes the Acting Mayor. John asked nominations for Council President. Steve moved, and Kate seconded, to elect Jennifer Henery as Council President. Motion passed with Jennifer abstaining.

MINUTES

Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded, to approve the minutes of the July Regular meeting. Motion passed. Steve moved, and Lillian seconded, to approve the minutes of the July Special meeting. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Hall- Jon said that he and John met with the Masons at 4:30 today, and it started out pretty much as last time. They are not very open regarding not having ownership. Jon was able to provide information regarding joint ownership and one or the other organization owning it and the other leasing. Jon is going to write a document with the pros and cons of each option. John said that at the end of the meeting, one of Masons said that if the Village owned the building, it would be responsible for the upkeep.

Paving Update- Ordinance 17-2023. John said that the Ordinance to Amend the OPWC loan amount and contract needs to be passed to proceed. Ken moved, and Lilly seconded, to suspend the rules. Motion passed. Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded, to pass the Ordinance. Motion passed. John said that Matt and Bill agreed to having Kyle cut down some trees in the alley before the paving. John has asked Kyle to put us on his schedule. John said that in conjunction with this, we have been discussing speed bumps. There is money in the street fund for that. John asked Jennifer to contact Fairfield County Engineers regarding snow plowing if we put in the speed bumps. Steve said that he is concerned about the money out of the street fund. He would like more information about the cost. Jennifer said that as a part of streets, the drain collapse at the fire department was not ODOT' responsibility. Dreams came and redid it and did a really fine job.

Software Billing Update- Cindy said this is the last update. Thirty minutes after Matt posted the instructions, she got a phone call to help make a payment. She said that she gets a notification each time a payment is made, and a lot of people are using it. Matt said that he had gotten questions regarding the Web ID. Cindy said it is printed on the bill underneath the month. We have the paperwork back from VCNB so that we can start the automatic payments.

Pump Station- John got an email from Joan Waugh asking if he knew of a village that could use a \$60,000 grant for a generator. Joan is a grant writer. Steve is working with the contractor to upgrade the pricing. She is doing this pro bono this time to prove her worth for the future. He strongly urges council to look at this and bring her on board. We would have to know about the finances. Jon said that in most cases the grant writer gets a portion of the grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Trash Contract- Cindy said that our current contract with Rumpke expires 12-31-23. Jon said that we will have to pass an Ordinance to go to bid, and then pass an Ordinance to accept a contract. We will need to pass the bid Ordinance in August as an emergency.

ARPA Fund- Cindy said that we have about \$9,000 left which we really need to spend in 2023. We had discussed using it for storm drains, but if that is not going to occur in time, it needs to be reallocated to purchase supplies for the sewer fund. Jon said that it could also be used for the Town Hall. She said it's not a decision that needs to be made tonight, but we need to do a plan.

2024 Preliminary Budget- Ordinance 15-2023 to approve the preliminary budget. Steve presented the budget outline and emphasized that this is preliminary. Finance Committee will meet again in September, when there is nine months of data, to write the final budget. He said that if the current trend continues with the water and sewer funds, we may be able to lower the % of increase for the rates. Jennifer moved, and Ken seconded, to approve the Ordinance. Motion passed.

Ordinance 16-2023 An Ordinance to Amend Street Appropriations- Cindy said that this is necessary for the work to cut down trees in the alleys. Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded, to pass the Ordinance. Motion passed.

An Ordinance Providing for the Care and Maintenance of obstructions along streets, alleys, and sidewalks, and imposing fine structure. Presented by John. First Reading.

Checking Account- Cindy said that Council needs to approve removing Paul Norby as a signer on account 800126197 and add John Burge as a signer. Council approved.

Open Floor for new ideas/pressing matters- John said that have need of a Village Administrator. He asked Jon if we needed to pass an ordinance to place an ad. Jon said no. Steve said if we find someone, we will have to pass an ordinance for the pay rate, if it happens this year. Otherwise, we will be passing a pay rate ordinance for 2024. Jon said the position is described in ORC.

PAY BILLS- Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded to approve any and all bills. Motion passed.

ADJOURN MEETING- Ken moved, and Steve seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Signed by:

John Burge, Acting Mayor



Cindy Lewis, Clerk/Treasurer

VILLAGE OF RUSHVILLE
RECORD OF ORDINANCE

Ordinance:

Passed:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL FUND (1000)
DATED DECEMBER, 2022.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the previous appropriations for 2023 due to legal fees incurred by Ordinance 7-2023 authorizing the expenditure of funds to pay Solicitor Jon M. Browning to investigate, negotiate a settlement, and/or litigate with all related parties who owns the building now being used by the Village of Rushville and Mason's Lodge 211.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Village of Rushville, Fairfield County, State of Ohio, that an amendment be made to the Appropriations for the year 2023.

Section 1. Fund 1000 shall be increased to \$5,000.

Section 3. This Ordinance is necessary to meet the budgetary criteria for the Village and the safety and welfare of its residents and will take effective upon passage by council and signing by the mayor.

 acting mayor
John Burge, Acting Mayor

Cindy Lewis, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved as to form _____
Jon M. Browning, Village Solicitor