

# THE VILLAGE OF RUSHVILLE COUNCIL MEETING MONTH: May

Meeting Date: May 11, 2023      Start Time: 6:00 PM      End Time: 8:04 PM

Council Members	Present	Employees	Present
Paul Norby	YES	Cindy Lewis	YES
Lillian Roderick	YES	Jon Browning	YES
Jennifer Henery	YES		
Kate Poston	NO	Village Historian	
Ken Dean	YES	Matt Schweitzer	YES
John Burge	YES		
Steve Lewis	YES		

**CALL TO ORDER-** The Village of Rushville Council was called to order for Regular Meeting by Mayor Paul Norby at the Town Hall.

**WELCOME OF VISITORS-** Kyle Peters, Jonathan Allison, Thomas Crapps, Aaron Root, and Michael      All of the visitors were concerned about the proposed alley Ordinance and how it would affect their businesses. Paul said it would be best to read the Ordinance now while it is open to visitor interaction. He said it is not an emergency and will be subject to three readings and any changes that need to be made. Paul said that it is important to get the input from the businesses that would be affected. The visitors offered a number of suggestions regarding reinforcing the alleys and access. John said that, as written, the Ordinance is a starting place, and it is read three times to allow for community conversation. There was also discussion regarding reopening an abandoned alley between Main Street and the alley. Steve said that when the plan was put together for the alleys, we did it as all of the alleys needed the same thing. What he is hearing from all of you is that there are certain sections of alleys that we need to look at differently. Steve said that he is so glad that all of you came. You have come up with awesome ideas and changed our thoughts as to how to make this work for everyone in the Village. Paul said that he is a firm believer that Ordinances don't pass without three readings, unless it is an emergency. If there isn't agreement at the end of three readings, we table until there is agreement. John said that he and Jenny are the Street Committee, and they will be having meetings regarding this. He is also going to look at Ordinances from other communities to see how they have dealt with the issues.

**MINUTES-** Jennifer moved, and John seconded, to approve the minutes of the April meeting. Motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Pump Station-** Steve said that Ben said that they were to ship the meter on May 1. They told him yesterday that they were shipping within 5 days. That's after they shipped the

wrong parts. He has been sending texts constantly to update Steve. He is rebuilding Pump 1, and we need it because Pump 2 is not working well.

Lagoons- The work is finished. Apparently, the Fairfield County Building Inspector has to come out and sign off on the work before Walsh can bill it.

High School Sewer- Steve said that it is being manually pumped twice a day at this point. The \$1200 contactor that was installed was defective. The company would not send a replacement part until this part was returned. There will have to be a decision made as to whether we should buy another contactor to have in stock. Cindy said that the contactor at the middle school is different.

Utility Delinquencies- Cindy said that she has made some progress with this. On Tuesday, we put out 22 shut off notices. The last phone call came in this morning just as she was going to tell the guys to shut if off. The only thing that has been shut off is Cathy Grubb's sewer. Paul asked if this is due to changing our delinquency policy or do we have a systemic problem that we need to address. Cindy said that there are some people who have been playing our old system, and they would just wait until action was going to be taken. Some would only pay it down to below \$150, not in full. She also said that she thinks the online payment will help- people are really ready for that.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Alley Paving Bids- John said that he only received one bid, and it is from SDS Inc. John had requested that he bid it in three pieces—all of the alley, a portion of Bremen Ave, and a portion of Main Street at the curve. He came up with \$147,138. John's recommendation as that we hire him just to do the alleys, but the question is if we ask him to do anything different, so we have to go back out to bid. Jon said that we are changing the scope of the project and probably have to rebid. Paul said that the guys that were here were willing to do a lot of work, but they don't have time to do it. John said that if we put out a bid for just that alley, it is so small that no one will bid on it. And we would get a better price from local people. Paul said that there are liability issues, and Jon asked who would supervise the project. Steve said that even with the alleys at \$97,000, we can't afford it. We aren't changing the scope of the project, which is paving the alleys. Whether we pave one section of alley or others. Steve said that before any of discussion goes forward, a decision has to be made whether or not we are going to assess people because we can pay for about \$75,000 over seven years, but that's all. Cindy said she did some calculations that if we use \$3500 a year of our unencumbered balance, she could get an assessment down to \$4 a month. Paul asked if John and Jenny could meet at 5:15 Monday.

New Ordinance- An Ordinance providing for the maintenance of alleys within the Village of Rushville. First reading.

Ordinance 12-2023- An Ordinance Prohibit the Conveyance onto Village property of Weapons, Establishing the right to carry firearms onto Village property, and repealing all prior inconsistent Ordinances, and declaring an emergency. Steve said that we had an

incident at last council meeting that made a lot of people uncomfortable. Lilly and Kate were scared enough to ask their husbands to come. This building is a death trap. There is no escape. Steve said he took the paper for him to sign. He didn't care whether he signed or not- he was looking for a weapon. He might have had knife, but he didn't have a gun. There is an old Ordinance out there that says that nobody can carry, including buildings and sidewalks. We have to deal with the reality that there are people who don't like us and are aggressive. Steve said that he thinks it is an emergency. It's important that we protect the Council members and the public that are in this building. John moved, and Jennifer seconded, to suspend the rules. Motion passed. Jennifer moved, and Ken seconded, to approve the Ordinance. Motion passed.

**OPEN FLOOR-** New ideas, pressing matters.

Cindy presented a bill from Kirkbride Plumbing for work done at the Turben's building, requested by the Turbens. Paul said that we can't legally pay for work that we didn't contract for. Paul said that he will contact Kirkbride and tell him we aren't paying the bill.

Matt said that the Ohio Historical Marker for the Underground Railroad has been approved. Working on a grant from Fairfield County Foundation.

John said that the church has a broken window in the back, and the back door is not secure. He has seen kids inside the building. We need to secure it and put up No Trespassing Sign.

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

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

Signed by:

---

Paul Norby, Mayor

---

Cindy Lewis, Clerk/Treasurer