**THE VILLAGE OF RUSHVILLE COUNCIL MEETING**

 **MONTH: October**

**Meeting Date: October 10, 2022 Start Time:6:30 PM End time: 7:54 PM**

**Council Members Present Employees Present**

**Paul Norby, Mayor YES Cindy Lewis YES**

**Lillian Roderick YES Jon Browning NO**

**Jennifer Henery YES**

**Kate Poston YES Village Historian**

**Ken Dean YES Matt Schweitzer NO**

**John Burge YES**

**Steve Lewis YES**

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

**WELCOME VISITORS-No visitors present**

**MINUTES- Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded to approve the September Regular Meeting minutes. Motion passed.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

 **Ordinance outlining new taps-Paul said that several of us went to a Mayor’s meeting in Lithopolis. He said that we will receive guidelines on how to put an accurate price tag to this, and we will be receiving a worksheet to calculate the costs.**

 **Mason Building- Steve said that he is still working on pricing for HVAC, etc.**

 **Paving Update- Jennifer said that she had talked with County Engineers regarding the Engineers Certificate for the OWPS loan application. One said they could help us and one said no. John said that he has called Strands Engineering, who Eric recommended Saturday. They will be willing to help us out for a small fee. John is working on the application with the wording that Eric recommended. Paul said we probably need to get photographs of the worst spots. John said that we are also getting some points due to the fact that our average median income is less than $75,000**

 **Gas Line Work- John said they are proceeding and nothing new to report.**

 **Oak Leaf Lane- Paul asked if we have heard anything from Jeff. Nothing to report.**

 **Pump Station Maintenance and Upgrades- Steve said that he just talked to Gary today. He is basically finished. Ned is going to need to hook up the pressure sensor, and he has the parts. He now needs the phone numbers and email addresses for the people to be notified of a failure. Paul said that we should probably put on everyone that is on our emergency list. With the upgrade on the modem, we will have a website that we can actually go to and see what’s happening on the system.**

 **Exposed Old Water Cistern- John said that Columbia Gas is still going to do it.**

 **Ordinance 6-2022- An Ordinance Establishing Village of Rushville Sewer Regulations. Steve asked if anyone had a chance to read through the changes. He added that this also deals with commercial accounts. He asked if anyone has any issues with anything in Section 1. There were none. He added a few items to what can’t be put in the sewer. That is specifically for the schools. There was another suggestion regarding storm drain into the sewer. Steve also proposed that assessment of damages be based on the age of the equipment, per a conversation with Ned. Also, the Village reserves the rite to smoke or put dye in any system. Cindy asked if there is something regarding keeping the easement free of vegetation, etc. Steve said it is in there. Second reading.**

 **Ordinance 10-2022- An Ordinance to Establish Sewer Rates. Second Reading**

**NEW BUSINESS**

 **Ordinance 11-2022-Giving consent of the Village to the Plowing of Snow under**

**Supervision of the Fairfield County Engineer. John asked if there was any reason that we couldn’t pay them to put out salt. Cindy said that she asked that last year and was told they can’t legally do it. Jennifer moved, and Lillian seconded, to suspend the rules. Motion passed. Jennifer moved, and John seconded, to pass the Ordinance. Motion passed.**

 **Ordinance 12-2022- An Ordinance to Amend Sewer Operating Appropriations.**

**Cindy said that the incidents at the school pretty much decimated our budget. She also said that there about $6.000 left of the ARPA money that can be used for some repairs, but not for regular maintenance. Steve moved, and Jennifer seconded, to pass the Ordinance. Motion passed.**

 **Ordinance 13-2022- An Ordinance to Amend Appropriations for the Street Fund. Cindy said that this is based on the estimate for the engineer’s study. Steve moved, and Ken seconded to pass the Ordinance.**

 **Resolution 4-2022-A Resolution to Adopt the Fairfield County Hazards Mitigation Plan. Cindy said that we prepared a preliminary grant for the generator, and in order to eligible, we have to pass the resolution. Steve moved, and Lillian seconded, to pass the Resolution. Motion passed.**

 **Public Transit- Cindy received a letter requesting a donation to support the transit system. She said that we usually donate to this as a surprising number of our residents utilize the system. John moved, and Steve seconded, to donate $500. Motion passed. John**

**said that we need to put the contact information on the website.**

 **Tree Lighting Ceremony- Cindy said that David Uhl notified her that because of possible weather issues, handicap access, and restroom access, the tree lighting will be at the church. He asked about putting flyers in the utility bills. Steve said that as long as it was being held at the Town Hall, it was a function of the village in partnership with the church. When it moved to the church it becomes a religious event. So we can’t participate.**

**John suggested that we let it go for this year and let it be known that when we get the Town Hall restored, we will move it back here.**

 **Pay Rates for 2023- Steve pointed out that our 2 pay rate ordinances (6-2021 & 13-2021) are in conflict, and they use percentages which we can no longer do. They need to be abolished and replaced with an ordinance for 2023. Cindy said that the auditor stated that they really need to see something that spells out the pay rates each year. Steve said that the Finance Committee proposed pay rates for 2023 as follows:**

 **General Maintenance- Base Rate for new hire- $18**

 **General Maintenance for existing employees - $18.90**

 **Meter Readers- Base rate for new hires- $14**

 **Meter Reader for existing employees- $15**

 **Contract for Village Administrator base rate for a new hire- $23.50**

 **Rate for current Village Administrator- $25.00**

 **Steve said that he has had conversations with Jon Browning, and he is content to stay with his current rate for 2023. He asked for a little raise in 2024. Steve suggested $80.**

**Jon wants a two- year contract as he may retire. Lillian said that if he is good with the $80 we should go with that.**

 **Funding for the Generator- Steve said that we have looked at grants. We applied with Fairfield County Mitigation with a pre-application. They will tell us if we are approved to submit a full application. The process takes 8-10 months. We could apply for an OPWA loan. If we could get the application in by Nov. 4 the best we could hope for is funding by July. We have CD’s for water debt that can be transferred to Water Operating for $55,000. We also $62,000 in Water Debt that we could transfer. The decision was to leave the CD’s and use the funds we have. Cindy said that we have to put a legal notice in the EG that we are accepting bids and set a deadline.**

**PAY BILLS- Steve moved, and Ken seconded, to pay any and all bills.**

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

**Signed by:**

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**Paul Norby, Mayor Cindy Lewis, Clerk/Treasurer**