

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

Village of St. Paris

February 6, 2023

Council Meeting

Held

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The invocation prayer was led by Pastor Scott Barger of the St. Paris Church of God.

Roll call was taken by Mayor Brenda Cook. Lynn Miller, Susan Prince, Sam Ronicker and Randy Smith were present. Joe Curran and Terry Ervin II were absent. Village Administrator Spencer Mitchell, Fiscal Officer Marc McGuire and Chief of Police Eric Smith were also present.

Motion was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the Council agenda. Motion passed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: none

Motion was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve the Council meeting minutes dated January 16, 2023. Motion passed.

Mayor's Notes:

- Council received the revised Village Council Meeting Policies and Procedures, dated February 6, 2023, for review. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince to approve the Village Council Meeting Policies and Procedures dated February 6, 2023. The motion did not receive a second motion.
- The village received an email from the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) stating that were approximately 261 non-filer letters (as compared to 345 non-filer letters in 2022) mailed to taxpayers that neglected to file a municipal income tax return for the Village of St. Paris. Taxpayers can simply file e-file returns or exemptions at www.ritaohio.com, mail or fax to RITA the documents listed on the non-filing letter.
- A community garden meeting will be held on February 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM at Covenant Lutheran Church. The community garden is located at the well field on S. High Street and anyone interested in having a plot should attend the meeting. Chad Bender is in charge of the community garden project.
- The Champaign County Career Expo is February 22, 2023 from 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM. The expo is at the Champaign County Fairground's 4-H building.
- Mayor Cook asked Council to fill committee appointments for the Budget Committee and the Safety Committee. Councilor Curran, appointed to the Budget Committee at the January 20, 2023 meeting, will no longer serve on the Budget Committee. Councilor Prince and Councilor Smith will serve on the Budget Committee. Councilor Ronicker and Councilor Curran will serve on the Safety Committee.

Old Business:

- Ordinance 2023-2 – Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The Ordinance comes as a recommendation from the St. Paris Planning Commission, after consultation from the Logan-Union-Champaign Regional Planning Commission (LUC) and the amendments were discussed at the Public Hearing prior to the December 19, 2022 Council meeting. Mayor Cook held the 3rd and final reading of Ordinance 2023-2. Councilor Ronicker raised the issue of village residents not being able to have chickens if this ordinance is passed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Prince to approve and adopt Ordinance 2023-2. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in against 0-4. Motion failed.
- Ordinance 2023-3 – Village Marquee Advertising. Mayor Cook held the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2023-3. The 3rd and final reading will be conducted at the next regularly scheduled council meeting on February 20, 2023

New Business:

- Resolution 1365 – 2023 Permanent Appropriations. Mayor Cook read Resolution 1365. Councilor Ronicker questioned increases in operating supplies, accounting and legal fees, and the increases in capital outlay in the street fund and water fund. Councilor Ronicker wanted to know how the budget improves the lives of the village residents. Councilor Smith noted that the increases in capital outlay was at his request to get more streets repaved, but doing this takes time and cannot be done in 1 year. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve Resolution 1365. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 3-1, with Councilor Ronicker voting no. Motion passed.

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10146

Held

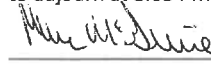
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- Resolution 1366 – Parking Fines. Mayor Cook read Resolution 1366. Councilor Miller asked if there was a problem with parking and also noted that the \$25 fee for a 1st time parking violation was too high. Councilor Smith asked if this was just for the handicap parking restrictions. Mayor Cook reviewed Ohio Basic Code 76.04 which outlines what are parking violations, i.e. parking in a crosswalk, parking in a handicap zone, parking within 10 feet of a fire hydrant, reverse parking and several other parking violations. Mayor Cook noted that the Champaign County Municipal Court asked for a resolution to be passed that recommends the dollar amount of parking fines. Councilor Ronicker asked how this resolution improves the lives of the village residents. **Motion** was made by Councilor Miller and seconded by Councilor Prince to approve Resolution 1366. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 3-1 with Councilor Ronicker voting against. Motion passed.
- Ordinance 2023-4 – Snow Emergency. Mayor Cook read Ordinance 2023-4 and asked that it be passed as an emergency ordinance. Councilor Smith understood why North and South Springfield Streets are snow emergency routes, but questioned why North and South High Streets are listed as snow emergency routes. Councilor Prince stated that cars need to be removed on High Street because there is no place to plow snow away from High Street with cars parked along the street, and also because High Street is a heavily traveled street, much like Springfield Street. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to waive the 3 readings and have Ordinance 2023-4 be passes as an emergency. Mayor Cook called for yay’s and nay’s and the vote was a tie at 2-2, with Councilor Ronicker and Councilor Miller voting against the motion. Mayor Cook broke the tie by voting in favor of the motion that the ordinance be read as an emergency. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve Ordinance 2023-4. A roll call vote was taken and Councilor voted in favor by a 3-1 vote with Councilor Ronicker voting against.

Public Comments:

- Gary Doeden, 341 W. Main Street, asked if the street fund pays the cost of replacing water lines that are located under the street. Administrator Mitchell stated that a portion of the cost to repave the street (under which the water line lays) is paid from the water fund. Mr. Doeden inquired about any plans to fix public alleys. Councilor Smith noted that alleys are not a primary concern, but work has been done on some alleys. Administrator Mitchell stated that the village did repair some alleys last summer by having the Champaign County Engineer chip and seal the alleys. Administrator Mitchell noted that the chip and seal improves the condition of the alley/street and is an affordable improvement.

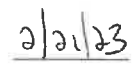
There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Miller to adjourn at 8:03 PM. Motion passed.



Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer



Brenda Cook, Mayor



Date