

Village of St. Paris
June 19, 2023
Tax Budget Hearing

The Tax Budget Hearing was called to order at 7:00 PM.

The invocation prayer was led by Councilor Ronicker.

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

Fiscal Officer McGuire reviewed the 2024 proposed Tax (Revenue) Budget for the Village of St. Paris. The proposed revenue for 2024 is estimated at \$3,676,756.64.

Public Comments: none

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Ervin to adjourn at 7:11 PM. Motion passed.

Village of St. Paris
June 19, 2023
Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Motion was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Ervin to approve the Council agenda, as amended. Motion passed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

Motion was made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Council meeting minutes dated June 5, 2023. Motion passed.

The presentation of financials dated May 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve the financial reports as presented. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Bank Reconciliation dated May 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve the Bank Reconciliation. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of Water/Sewer Account Adjustments dated May 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the Water/Sewer Account Adjustments. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Appropriation Supplemental dated May 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Appropriation Supplemental. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

Mayor's Notes:

- Community Fire Works and Fun Day is June 24, 2023, at Graham Middle School and is sponsored by the JSP Fire Auxiliary. The event begins at 4:00 PM with fireworks at dusk.
- Our Town St. Paris Association is having their annual meeting on June 26, 2023 at Harmon Park beginning at 6:30 PM. All our welcome to attend.
- The Church of God is having a community celebration on August 19, 2023.
- Eagles Breed Brotherhood Motorcycle Club was in attendance. President Wildman of the motorcycle club introduced some of the other members and stated that they are a non-profit organization to help raise money for families and kids. The club will be working out of the old Freddie's Pizza store on U.S. Highway 36.
- Mayor Cook read the press release titled "Village of St. Paris Receives \$1.5 Million State Grant for Critical Water Infrastructure Upgrades." The village is one of 70 projects receiving state grants to address critical water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Ohio. Mayor Cook thanked Administrator Mitchell, Access Engineering, the Champaign County Commissioners and the Champaign County Engineer for their efforts in securing the grant for the village.
- The village is waiting to get information from the St. Paris Post Office on where to place the mailboxes for the residents along the newly constructed W. Lynn Street.

Police Department:

- For the month of May, there were 47 recordable calls for service and 4 arrests.
- The department has assisted both North Lewisburg and Mechanicsburg Police Departments with narcotic search warrants. The department has also helped North Lewisburg with a traffic blitz and will help Mechanicsburg with a traffic blitz as well.

Administrator:

- The village has been awarded a \$1.5 million grant for the replacement of water lines along U.S. Hwy 36 (Main Street). The grant application does call for a \$150,000 match to the project, with those funds coming from the water fund. There is no time frame for the project at this time.
- A 2011 Honda CR-V was purchased with approved, appropriated funds and will be used by village staff when needing to conduct village business. The cost of the vehicle was \$12,000.
- Zoning infraction letters have been mailed to property owners in regards to junk cars and tall grass.
- Administrator Mitchell has been working with the Logan-Union-Champaign Regional Planning Commission (LUC) on zoning enforcement of B-3 properties.
- New street signs and stop signs will be installed throughout the village.
- With the help of Access Engineering, a Request for Proposal for the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment at Harmon Park will be taken to the Park & Trees Committee for review.

Committee Appointments and Discussion:

- **Budget:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for June 21st at 11:00 AM to discuss investing in STAR Ohio.
- **JSP Fire Board:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the firehouse.
- **Land & Buildings:**
-At the last meeting, discussion revolved around the development possibilities for the well field on S. High Street, at Harmon Park and at the municipal building lot. Ideas for the well field included having some sort of outdoor recreation, i.e. a walking path, ball diamonds, splash pad. Ideas for the municipal building lot centered on the issue of downtown parking spaces and how to increase the number of public parking spaces at the municipal building. Council requested that Administrator Mitchell get quotes for the reconstruction of parking spaces, as well as water drainage, for the municipal building parking lot.
- **Park & Trees:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the council room.
- **Planning Commission:**
-The next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2023 at 7:30 PM in the council room.
- **Safety:** none

Old Business:

- Ordinance 2023-6 Amending Ordinance 908. Mayor Cook conducted the third and final reading of Ordinance 2023-6. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ronicker and seconded by Councilor Prince to vote on Ordinance 2023-5. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.
- The Tax Budget Hearing was conducted prior to tonight's council meeting. The proposed revenue for 2024 is estimated at \$3,676,756.64. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ronicker and seconded by Councilor Prince to approve the 2024 Tax Budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.
- Council agreed to conduct the next council meeting as scheduled for July 3, 2023.

New Business:

- Councilor Ervin discussed STAR Ohio, a program developed by the Ohio Treasurer of State, in which allows Ohio governmental subdivisions the ability to invest in high-grade, short-term securities that offers safe, penalty-free liquidity with comparative high yields. As of 6/15/23, the annualized yield of the STAR investments was 5.39%, whereas the current checking account rate at First Central National Bank of St. Paris is at 1.2%. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Miller to initiate the opening of a STAR Ohio account with \$10,000. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed. Fiscal Officer McGuire will open the STAR Ohio account. The Budget Committee will meet and discuss how much more money to invest into the STAR Ohio account and make a recommendation to Council.

Public Comments:

-Frank Blair, 203 Dugan Street, questioned why Council would want to spend money on the reconstruction of parking spaces in the municipal building lot. Mr. Blair noted that it is not a pressing issue and thinks adding extra parking spaces is not necessary.

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Prince and seconded by Councilor Miller to adjourn at 8:19 PM. Motion passed.