

**Village of St. Paris
November 6, 2023
Council Meeting**

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 Councilor Curran.

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

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

Public Comments on Agenda Items: none

Motion was made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Ervin to approve the Council meeting minutes dated October 16, 2023, as amended. Motion passed.

Mayor's Notes:

- Vance McCulla, Fire Chief of JSP Fire District, was in attendance and discussed the JSP Fire District levy on the November 7, 2023 election ballot. The levy is a renewal plus an additional 2.65 mill. As explained, the fire district is currently working with and operating on year 2009 funding. Fire Chief McCulla asked the public to support the levy.
- The senior citizens of St. Paris are gathering at the Harmon Park building every Tuesday, beginning on November 14, 2023, at 1:00 PM to play card games. A facility use form was completed.
- The Thanksgiving community church service that was scheduled for November 22, 2023 at 7:00 PM has been cancelled.
- Graham Elementary School is hosting a Thanksgiving community meal on November 23, 2023 at 12:00 PM. The Federation of Churches is providing food and asks for volunteers to help with the meal. Delivery service of the Thanksgiving meal is available.
- Our Town St. Paris Association's annual Christmas in the Village celebration is on December 2, 2023 from 1:00 – 6:00 PM.
- Councilor Smith stated that long time St. Paris resident Jim Goebel recently passed away.
- Councilor Curran thanked Administrator Mitchell for the new flag pole installed at Harmon Park.

Old Business:

- Ordinance 2023-7 Zoning Amendment. Mayor Cook conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2023-7 which amends zoning ordinance 420 to include regulations regarding rural residential districts with the Village of St. Paris. The third and final reading of Ordinance 2023-7 will be held at the next regularly scheduled council meeting on November 20, 2023.
- Councilor Ronicker noted that the Safety Committee met on October 25, 2023 for an in-depth study of the need for police cruisers. The proposal is to sell 2 cruisers, the 2013 Chevy Tahoe and the 2014 Dodge Charger and purchase a new 2023 Ford Explorer at a cost not to exceed \$65,000. Councilor Ronicker stated that there is money in the 2023 police budget to move around so that cruiser could be purchased this year. Most of the money will be reallocated from salaries for the purchase of the cruiser. Councilor Ervin asked when the old cruisers would be put on sale and the Chief stated that he will put the cruisers on gov.deals for bid pricing.
Motion was made by Councilor Ronicker to reallocate money, up to \$65,000, within the police budget for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer for the police department. **Motion** was made by Councilor Curran to table the discussion of the purchase of a new cruiser and have the Budget Committee review. Councilor Ervin agreed that the police department needs a new cruiser and expects the Chief to get the best price available. Councilor Ervin asked what the time frame was for the new vehicle and Chief stated that the new Ford Explorers are being built now and delivery will be before the end of year. Councilor Smith asked Chief to inquire about the purchase of an extended warranty on a 2023 Ford Explorer. Mayor Cook asked Councilor Curran if he would like to withdrawal his motion to table the discussion of the purchase of the new police cruiser and Councilor Curran did not want to withdraw his motion. Mayor Cook asked for a second to Councilor Currans motion. With no second to the motion, the motion dies for the lack of a second motion to table the discussion. Mayor Cook referred back to the Councilor Ronicker's original motion to reallocate up to \$65,000 within the police budget for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer. Councilor Ervin seconded Councilor Ronicker's motion. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted to a 2-2 tie with Councilor Curran and Councilor Smith voting against. With the tied vote, Mayor Cook voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Resolution 1371 – Vacation Buy Back, Village Administrator. Mayor Cook read Resolution 1371 to the public. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Ronicker to approve Resolution 1371. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. Payment will be made with the first payroll date in December.

Public Comments: none

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Miller to adjourn at 7:37 PM. Motion passed.

Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer

Brenda Cook, Mayor

Date