

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SMITHVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL February 21, 2023

The Council of the Village of Smithville met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall. Mayor Tom Poulson called the meeting to order. Members present at roll call were Larry Allen, Matt Haas, John Heitger, Tricia Mullins, and Patrick Finn. Solicitor Jason Groh, Clerk of Council Belinda Taylor, and Sergeant Rob Hartman was also present.

Allen made the motion to approve the minutes of February 07, 2023 Council Meeting. Finn seconded the motion. Roll call: Allen, yes, Haas, yes, Heitger, yes, Mullins, yes, Finn, yes. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

Police Report:

Sgt. Hartman reported that Central Square will start on the March 21st. He also reported that he has 2 officers interested in the K-9 spot. He also received a quote from Axon for new Taser's in the amount of \$11,900.00, which is \$2,300.00 per year for 60 months.

The tires are in for the K-9 cruiser and will be taken care next week.

James Dunnivan is in the shadow stage right now and Whitney Stump should be back in a few days from medical leave.

The department had 27 calls not including vacations and we are now a part of the Ohio Collaborative.

New Business:

John Heitger opened discussion on continuing the sidewalk project this year or waiting one more year. Typically, the engineering is completed one year and then the following year construction is completed. John would like everyone's opinion on continuing like normal or changing. Finn asked if we should do it every other year? Mullins stated we should continue with the project as is because people will always have hardships. Haas stated we are following a Master Plan and not putting the sidewalks in is a safety issue. The sidewalks make the town more desirable and a lot of people use them to walk including him. Haas feels as though people do not have the knowledge of how the funding works and it causes concern. Mullins stated we need to stress the different options of payment to the residences. Mayor Poulson followed up with the fact that we notify the residence of the amount 3 different times along with the time frame of the construction. The village covers 40 percent unlike most villages or cities that only cover 10 percent of the cost. Mayor Poulson also stated that the only reason to push it is the volume of projects going on and that would help the staff keep up with all of the paper work. Pushing back the engineering by one year to 2024 and then construction to 2025 would accomplish a break for both the staff and residence. Heitger reiterated that the residence have 5 years to pay the amount and that it is interest free or pay it over 10 years with 5 of that at a low interest rate.

John Heitger stated that he has information for the asphalt street bid on N Mill, N Milton and High Street. The three streets came in at \$89,820.00. Heitger stated we could do N Mill and N Milton for \$83,820.00 and the chip and seal High Street and Jane Drive for an additional \$4,000.00 at 87,820.00. The budget was originally set for \$140,000.00. Heitger stated that he and Adam have learned a lot about the chip and seal and feel this would be more cost effective.

Haas made the motion to approve the street paving project for Milton and Mill and chip and seal High Street and Jane Drive, Allen seconded the motion and Council unanimously agreed.

Adam received a \$600.00 quote to finish taking down a tree on E. Center Street that has fallen on a telephone wire.

BPA has approved an increase to the water/sewer deposit from 75.00 to 150.00 and the turn on fee to \$50.00 from \$25.00. The last item they have approved is changing the language for the temporary service to include a 30-day minimum. If a person is leaving town for more than 30 days then they can apply for their service to be put into a temporary status.

Heitger made the motion to approve BPA language change, Finn seconded the motion and Council unanimously approved.

Liaison Reports:

Heitger with Streets/Sidewalks had nothing new

Allen with Fire no updates.

Haas with Park/Trees stated a tree fell on the batting cage and Adam was handling the repairs

Finn with equipment reported that the chipper was at the welding shop being repaired.

Mullins asked that everyone let her know when everyone was logged into the new emails because a new 16-character password will need to be used so everyone will need to change the password to their email.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Poulson reported that CT Consultants general service contract for \$12,000.00 over 2 years is ready for renewal and will remain the same.

Allen made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$203,848.32, Mullins seconded the motion and council unanimously agreed.

Haas made a motion to enter executive session at 7:54 p.m. pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G) (3) for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, Allen seconded the motion, and Council unanimously approved. Invited into executive session were including members of Council, Solicitor Jason Groh, Clerk of Council Belinda Taylor, and Mayor Poulson.

Mullins motioned to come out of executive session and enter regular session at 8:10 p.m. Finn seconded, and council unanimously approved.

Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting, Heitger seconded the motion and Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Scheduled meetings:

Council Meeting February 24, 2023 @ 7pm

Council Meeting March 7, 2023 @ 7pm

BPA Meeting March 13, 2023

Belinda Taylor

Clerk

Thomas K. Foster

Mayor