

MINUTES OF SMITHVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

June 18, 2024

The Council of the Village of Smithville met in regular session on Tuesday June 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall. Mayor Tom Poulson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present at roll call were Larry Allen, Nathaniel Duenke, Joseph Reed, and Patrick Finn. Additionally Fiscal Officer Pamela Keener, Solicitor Jason Groh, Police Chief Hartman, and Office Assistant Amy Hescht were in attendance.

Finn made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2024 meeting. Allen seconded the motion. Roll call: Allen, yes, Duenke, yes, Reed, yes, Finn, yes. The minutes were approved.

There were no visitors or correspondence.

Chief Hartman had no new police items to report.

Old Business:

Traffic Visibility – Solicitor Jason Groh discussed putting in a 4 way stop at Prospect & N Summit. This would cause too many delays during school year with the Career Center and Smithville Schools.

Chief Hartman again explained the need for an additional full time officer position to provide appropriate police coverage to the Village. Fiscal Officer Keener provided various scenarios relating to the existing income tax rate and credit. Council discussed how to generate new revenue, include ideas of increasing the income tax rate, reducing the income tax credit, and property taxes. Members of Council expressed an interest in having a public session to discuss the situation with Smithville residents to obtain their input. Pam will work on creating a brochure to send to residents about the need for increased revenue with input from Chief Hartman. Flyer tentative mail date will be the week of July 8th, 2024. Public meeting tentatively scheduled for August 8, 2024 at 6pm. Meeting will be posted on Village sign and website. Solicitor Jason Groh will set the public forum with bullet points. Setting a limit for people to speak then after council will respond.

New Business:

The Mayor advised Council that the Smithville Girls Track Team won the Division III State Track Championship last week at the State Track meet held in Dayton, Ohio. A Proclamation recognizing and honoring the team will be presented to the team at the next council meeting July 1, 2024 stating Saturday July 6, 2024 as Smithville Girls Track Saturday.

Liaison reports:

Streets/Sidewalks: Finn advised that cinders were used to fill the whole on Fairlawn.

Fire: Allen stated 84 calls last month and new addition is underway.

Police: No report.

Veteran's Memorial: No report.

Park/Trees: No report.

Equipment: No report.

Finance/Personnel: No report.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor advised council that the office is still working through some past utility billing issues but that new bills have been generated and sent out. The water meter reader is now programmed, but they are working on dividing into 2 routes. Considering going to monthly readings soon. Several meters have been replaced. The Mayor also advised that the 523 N. Summit property had sold and that the new owner was given copies of reports for the necessary improvements. The Mayor mentioned that he is still waiting for the draft of the GLS lease/purchase. Lastly, the Mayor discussed RCAP – EPA assessment of lines and connections within the Village will begin the week of August 5 to 12 – concerning lead-based pipes – public & private. Required by October 16,2024 and will have 10 years to abate. July utility billing will include flyer to encourage self-testing – QR code or form. Hope for self-compliance. This will need posted to website, sign, utility bills, post office, Village Hall, and possibly newspaper.

Allen motioned to pay the bills in the amount of \$38,926.57. Duenke seconded the motion.

Roll call: Finn, yes, Allen, yes, Duenke, yes, Reed, yes. The motion carried.

Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Reed Seconded. Roll call: Duenke, yes, Reed, yes, Finn, yes, Allen, yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Approved: 8-6-24

Amy Hesse
Clerk

Thomas R. Fisher
Mayor