

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Regular Meeting / Public

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

Monday, February 17,

20 25

Council President Vance called the council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Pastor Dan Hostetler from Living Water Church led the prayer. The pledge was recited.

Roll call. All present.

Council minutes of the regular meeting on February 3rd were presented for approval. Davies motioned to approve those minutes; Lax seconds; all ayes; motion passes.

Committee Reports - None

Administrative Reports

Mayor Plybon: Announced the appointment renewal of Melissa Craemer Smith as our representative to the Wayne County Board of health for a three year period 2/28/2025 – 2/29/2028. This appointment will be confirmed at the District Advisory Council meeting on Monday, March 3rd. The employee of the month is lineworker Garrett Fetzer in the Electric Distribution Department.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: No trash delay this week. Our road salt quantity is in good shape. Some area municipalities are dealing with shortages. Requested a motion to accept wooded property from the Wayne County Land Bank which they secured through a sheriff sale. This land is at the west end of Buckeye and abuts other city owned property and is adjacent to the railroad. No current plans. Zero cost to us. Shanklin motioned to accept the property. Lax seconds; all ayes; motion passes.

Utilities Director Brediger: We are watching the statehouse budget, municipal funding, and kilowatt hour tax. Mayor, Director Brediger, Assistant Utility Director Dave Filippi, and utility board member Joe Messenger are headed to Washington DC next week M-W for the American Public Power Association's annual legislative rally. Meetings will be held with state legislators addressing utility issues. Sunday there was a water main break on Lynn Drive due to freezing and thawing that affected around 10 customers.

Finance Director Strimlan: Working on final appropriations. March 3rd workbooks will be sent out and legislation on first reading; March 10th workshop and second reading; and, March 17th will be final reading. A quorum is necessary for these readings.

Old Business – None

New Business

Resolution 06-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on first reading. Davies seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 06-25**, A Resolution authorizing the Director of Utilities to enter into a contract, without bidding, for the purchase of one Digger Derrick Truck, in the City of Orrville, Ohio and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: The electric utility has two Digger Derrick Trucks to lift up large transformers and set poles. One was 30 years old and having issues. It was removed from service. The other is a 10-yearold truck. The vendor had a buyer back out of a sale and if this legislation is approved, we can jump up in line and secure it in about 6 months at just under \$370,000, this is included in our 2025 budget.

Squirrell moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Davies seconded. Ayes all; motion carried. Squirrell moved that **Resolution 06-25** be adopted as read. Lax seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

Resolution 07-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on first reading. Shanklin seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 07-25**, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Orrville, Ohio declaring support for the preservation of the federal tax exemption of municipal bonds.

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Discussion: This is a proposal from the Ohio Municipal League to support and to encourage municipalities to pass this legislation encouraging the government not to do away with the tax exempt bonds because of the importance in infrastructure and investment for local government. All of our jointly owned generation projects that AMP operates and maintains on our behalf, all of our hydros, our Prairie State project, our Fremont project, and our solar projects have all been funded with tax-exempt financing. We have collectively a little over \$4 billion utilized in this funding mechanism. Without the tax exempt feature some of these projects we would not have ventured into. It saves our customers millions of dollars every year. We utilized these since about 2010.

Squirrell moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Carr seconded. Ayes all; motion carried. Squirrell moved that **Resolution 07-25** be adopted as read. Davies seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

Police Chief Cory Seiler presented the 2024 Police Department annual report. Copy on the police department webpage.

Good of the Order

Mayor: Appreciation for the law director's initiative preparing the legislation declaring support of the preservation of the municipal bonds. It is important to preserve any way we can save in any area of the city, any of our revenues. Appreciation to Chief Seiler, his report, his commitment to keeping our citizens safe, and his leadership in the police department. Our annual reports provide valuable data to our citizens. This is all great information that our entire city needs to be taking note of. Service Department Superintendent Ryan Immel will present his department annual report on March 3rd.

Davies: Thanked Mr. Wheeler and the service department for keeping the salt trucks out.

Squirrell moved to adjourn. Carr seconds. Ayes all; motion carried.

Our next regular meeting will be March 3, 2025. Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm.



Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

March 3, 2025

Date



Paul Vance, President of Council