

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Regular Meeting / Public

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held _____

Monday, June 16,

20 25

A public hearing was held at 7:30 pm regarding **Resolution 26-25**, A Resolution approving the Budget for the City of Orrville, Ohio, for the calendar year 2026, and declaring an Emergency. No comments. Public hearing closed at 7:30 pm.

Council President Vance called the council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Orrville Ministerial Association's Pastor John Mulpas led prayer. The pledge was recited.

Roll call. All present.

Council minutes of the regular and the committee of the whole meetings on June 2nd were presented for approval. Davies motioned to approve those minutes; Shanklin seconds; all ayes; motion passes.

Committee Reports

Finance – Lax: Committee has not met. The budget is on 2nd reading. If council would like a workshop, it can be arranged. No one requested a workshop.

Ordinance & Personnel – Squirrell: A meeting was held tonight regarding naming rights for city projects. Legislation will be coming in July.

Transportation – Shanklin: Committee has not met. Requested a committee meeting for July 14th, 6:30 pm to discuss the PCR (Pavement Condition Rating) and ongoing projects.

Administrative Reports

Mayor Plybon: Officer Dan Sottosanti is the employee of the month. He started with the police department in 2018 and in 2023 was nominated for CIT Officer of the Year for helping people in mental health crisis. In 2025 he rescued two children during a hostage situation in Rittman. He has severed in many roles including School Resource Officer (SRO), Bike Patrol, and DARE instructor. He also served in the Ohio Army National Guard. Rehm Performing Arts is in full swing.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: Service Department is doing curb repair work downtown. They finished Market Street. Diamond grinding has been completed on Crown Hill. Council chairs should be here before the next meeting. Trail project started a few weeks ago and is going well, weather permitting. RFP came in for the fire station expansion project. We received 12 architect proposals. Six did take a tour prior to submitting. The Depot Park project will go out for bid this week.

Utilities Director Brediger: Summer mode will bring the generation plant up and running.

Finance Director Strimlan: Attended RITA's annual council of government meetings. Since the fall of 2022 we have partnered with RITA to administer our income tax to improve services for our tax payers and to reduce administrative costs for the city. It has delivered on both. Our taxpayers now have electronic filing, e-billing, extended customer service hours and improved data security. RITA can also cross reference Federal filing to help improve our compliance with our municipal tax code. They represent 83 of 88 Ohio counties. They collected \$6.3 million for us and the cost was less than 1% or about \$60,000. It does continue to be cost effective and beneficial to our tax payers. The budget is on second reading tonight. If you would like a workshop, we can do that next week after the utility board meeting otherwise our final reading will be on July 7.

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Old business

Resolution 22-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on second reading. Lax seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 22-25**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements for the purchase of extrication equipment for the Orrville Fire Department, and declaring an Emergency.

Discussion: Grant funds were received through the Wayne County Community Foundation for both the extrication equipment and the drones. The extrication equipment we currently have is no longer able to be serviced or parts replaced. Asked for approval this evening.

Squirrell moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. Ayes all; motion carried. Squirrell moved that **Resolution 22-25** be adopted as read. Carr seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

Resolution 23-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on second reading. Davies seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 23-25**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements for the purchase of drones for the Orrville Police Department, and declaring an Emergency.

Discussion: This is for the purchase of a large and a small drone. Funds have been received.

Squirrell moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Lax seconded. Ayes all; motion carried. Squirrell moved that **Resolution 23-25** be adopted as read. Lax seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

Resolution 24-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on second reading. Shanklin seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 24-25**, A Resolution authorizing the Public Utilities Board of Control to enter into an agreement or agreements, without bidding, for the purchase and installation of three (3) flight pumps, and declaring an Emergency.

Discussion: Three pumps that were found to be deteriorated. Not budgeted but will move around capital projects around to accommodate the cost. The anticipated cost was in the \$500,000-\$600,000 range. We may have a couple of options to save us a couple hundred dollars. If that does not work out for us, there is quite a lead time of receiving them. Informal proposals will be received from 3-4 suppliers.

Squirrell moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. Ayes all; motion carried. Squirrell moved that **Resolution 24-25** be adopted as read. Carr seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

Resolution 25-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on second reading. Lax seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 25-25**, A Resolution authorizing the Public Utilities Board of Control to enter into an agreement or agreements, without bidding, for the purchase of Orrville Utilities Power Plant software controls simulator system for operator training, and declaring an Emergency.

Discussion: Looking for options to keep our plant operators trained. Plant runs about 12-18 times a year on short noticed. They need to be trained and experienced to bring it up quickly and maintain our state operating license. The software has been demoed. They also designed our operating software in utilities. We can score them, grade them, track their progress, and we receive credit with regards to the licensing requirements we get from the State. The software takes about six months to develop.

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

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Resolution 26-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on second reading. Davies seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 26-25**, A Resolution approving the Budget for the City of Orrville, Ohio, for the calendar year 2026, and declaring an Emergency.

Discussion: The total budget is \$74 million. Slightly over \$9 million allocated for the general fund; \$9 million for the remaining tax supported funds; and \$56 million for the utilities. The only changes from the 2025 final appropriations were the addition of the contractual wage increases and changes to the capital projects for 2026.

New Business

Ordinance C-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on first reading. Davies seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Ordinance C-25**; An Ordinance amending Section 155.02 of Chapter 155 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Orrville, Ohio relating to spending authority of the Director of Safety-Service, Director of Utilities and Orrville Utilities Board and bidding procedures.

Discussion: President Vance initiated increasing the spending authority for the Safety-Service Director. Utility Directed Brediger asked if it would also be considered for his position. The Ohio Revised Code section setting bid limits was \$75,000 in 2024, raised from \$50,000 previously with a 3% annual escalator. For 2025, the Ohio Revised Code limit is \$77,250. The Safety-Service Director bid limit would go to the either the Revised Code Section 917 which is \$77,250 or \$75,000 whichever is greater, which would increase according the ORC which is currently set at 3%. The prior Ordinance 155-02 for the Safety-Service Director was at \$15,000, established in 2007. Because of lead time, chain supply issues, inflation and costs of goods and services, it was hamstringing the ability of administration to be nimble and rapidly make purchases without coming to Council. The example of our last meeting where we didn't have a quorum in council to pass legislation on a suspended basis, we had to postpone the purchase of the drones and extrication equipment. For Utilities, the Ordinance 9-17, the director had a \$50,000 limit for annual purchases, \$100,000 for non-annual purchases and the Utility Board had a further \$25,000 without their approval. His limit was \$25,000 without Utility Board approval, anything over \$100,000 had to come to council. The price of utility goods and services are significant in cost, lead time, chain supply and inflation, the proposal, approved by Utility Board, is an increase of the Director to \$100,000, add a layer where Utility Board can approve purchases over \$100,000 up to \$250,000. Council would not approve unless they exceed \$250,000. Purchases are budgeted for, Council approves the budget, if any changes or not budgeted for, and appropriations would come before council, giving several mechanisms that would advise council of any of those expenditures.

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

Resolution 27-25, Squirrell moved that it be placed on first reading. Davies seconds. Ayes all; motion passes. **Resolution 27-25**; A Resolution to change the name of Staff Engineer I, II, and III and establish the title and classification of City Engineer I, II and III, unclassified service, of the City of Orrville, Ohio, and repealing all legislation inconsistent herewith.

Discussion: Memo was sent to council. A Clerical change. Abbie has been here a year. Some of the State agencies, including ODOT, see Staff Engineer as someone who works under the city engineer. No change in grade, no change in pay, making more ease of use working with grant funding, State agencies, and even working with other cities.

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 27-25** be adopted as read. Shanklin seconded. Ayes all; motion carried.

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Held Monday, June 16, 20 25

Good of the Order

Squirrell: Thanked Jeanne for her work with Performing Arts.

Mayor: Thanked council for passing and consideration of tonight's Resolutions and Ordinances and the directors for preparing them and for keeping things moving along.

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

Our next regular meeting will be July 7, 2025, in three weeks. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm



Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

July 7, 2025
Date



Paul Vance, President of Council