

Council President Vance called the meeting to order. Pastor Chuck Davis from the Calvary Assembly of God led the prayer. Pledge was recited.

Roll call. Handwerk, Aspiras, Shanklin, Lorson, Carr, Mosley and Wilson were present.

Council minutes of the regular meeting February 20, 2023, were presented for approval. Shanklin motioned to approve those minutes; Lorson seconded. All ayes; motion passes.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

Parks and Recreation – Handwerk: No report. Will schedule a meeting soon to discuss the skate park and other projects. No date set yet.

Transportation – Mosley: met Monday to discuss 2023 street projects. Resident Monica messaged asking about a city plan for railroad derailment. Passing this over to Health and Safety chair Aspiras.

#### **Administrative Reports**

Mayor Dave Handwerk: Our March employee of the month is Chris Schillig at our power plant. Mayor and Director Brediger were in DC for the legislative rally where they met with staff members. Maryland and Pennsylvania have very nice highways.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: Contractors started the relocation of the dog park today, shifted north. Service Department began moving slide hill as well due to fence placement. This is in anticipation of the concrete pad for the skate park. For speeding complaints in neighborhoods, the police department has a speed sign program and conduct directed patrols. Contact Chief Birkbeck or Director Wheeler if you think your neighborhood could use these resources.

Utility Director Brediger: Insurance has been secured for our utilities, which was a struggle last year, premiums increased on the power plant. The coverage remains the same. Sunday morning Smith Dairy had an ammonia spill that ended up in the city's storm system. They will remove sludge from the creek behind the J.M. Smucker Company and make its way through our wastewater treatment plant. Ohio EPA will be addressing that. As the Mayor mentioned, we were in DC keeping relationships with our elected officials, especially to educate the two newest members.

Finance Director Strimlan: 2023 Final Appropriations are on first reading tonight. Our workshop is next Monday, March 13 immediately following the utility board meeting.

#### **Old Business**

**Resolution 8-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on second reading. Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 8-23**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into a contract with Atlantic Emergency Solutions without bidding for the purchase of a Pierce PUC Heavy Duty Rescue Pumper and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: Delivery is expected in 2026. It is budgeted for and instead of financing, it will save us money in interest. Prices keep going up quarterly. It is the most used fire truck for us and possibly the county. Request to pass this evening.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Resolution 8-23** be adopted as read. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

#### **New Business**

**Resolution 9-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Carr seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 9-23**, A Resolution authorizing the Director of Utilities and/or the Public Utilities Board of Control to execute a commitment letter relating to American Municipal Power, Inc.'s grant application for the Smart Grid: Using Edge Computing to Build Grid Resiliency Project, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: This is a Federal grant. AMP received approval from The Department of Energy to submit a grant on behalf of its members to install a smart meter system. We have been looking at this for about the past five years. We have the opportunity to phase out meters nearing the end of their useful life in the next couple years. It is a 50% reimbursing grant. The project could start in 2024 and would have 60 months to complete. It is non-binding. This is just to submit the application that we are giving it a serious look. Needs to be submitted next Monday so requesting approval tonight. It will cover just about all but our large industrial customers. It will provide more services, two-way communication and to look at different rates and plan for EV systems, redesign of our distribution system, and tie into our billing system. It will integrate with our water meters which would fall outside of this grant but save economies on meter reading. A lot of savings and customer options. Upgrade of software for data security will be a part of this.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Resolution 9-23** be adopted as read. Shanklin seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

**Resolution 10-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 10-23**, A Resolution to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Orrville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: This legislation authorizes spending after March 31<sup>st</sup>. It will go three readings. Total appropriations are \$74 million. \$57 million for the enterprise funds. \$9 million for the general fund. \$8 million for the tax-supported funds. Budget workshop on Monday immediately following the utility board meeting along with a special meeting to put it on second reading.

**Service Department Annual Report – Superintendent Ryan Immel**

Copy on file in the Safety Service Department.

**Good of the Order**

Mosley: Appreciate the work that went into our fire truck investment. Also, WQKT camera had technical issues again this evening. Recommend we get something figured out.

**Adjournment**

Carr moved to adjourn the council meeting; Lorson seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes.

We will have a finance budget workshop next Monday and a special meeting as well only to discuss that item. Our next regular meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, where we will also hear the Fire Department annual report. .

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Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_, 2023  
Date

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Paul Vance, President of Council