

Council President Vance called the council meeting to order.

The Orrville Ministerial Association, Pastor Paul Simonsen, Orrville C&MA Church, led the prayer. The pledge was recited.

Roll call. All present.

Council minutes of the September 18, 2023, regular meeting were presented for approval. Lorson motioned to approve those minutes; Aspiras seconded. All ayes; motion passes.

Public Comment

Rebekah Marshall of Pearl Street addressed the council concerning feral cats and issues. There were three new litters in the neighborhood. The Humane Society did not have space and couldn't take the cats but she was not comfortable transporting in her vehicle due to possible fleas and diseases. They are on roofs, in gardens, and leaving droppings which is unhealthy. Wheeler: No ownership of feral cats. We have a program with the Humane Society when they have space, normally they do but Wooster had a cat hoarder situation and they are full. Residents can trap. We have the traps they can use and they can take them to the society. We are then billed quarterly with address verification.

Lorson: We have an ordinance of animals running at large. But no one wants to claim ownership.

Mosley: I have met with Steve to see what to do. There is a Catify Café and Adoptions based in Orrville. Maybe a partnership with them? Catch and release helps stop them multiplying but they come right back to the area leaving feces and violating property. Catify has been fundraising for big plans and facilities. Maybe we could help them to move their plans forward. They have an adoption portion as well.

Kirkbride: There are at least 20-25 cats each quarter that get turned in (to the Humane Society). It is being used. The trap, neuter, release program is a long term solution because it doesn't prevent them from doing what they do.

Marshall: Why does it become our responsibility to move them if we abide by the standards and the city takes care of nuisance dogs, why not the cats?

Wheeler: Dogs and cats are under the county control by state Ohio Revised Code. The humane societies by nature are county organizations. The dog warden is through the county as well. Some cities deal with animal cruelty charges but am not aware of any that handle animal nuisance issues that are not on the county level. County commissioners would be the contact. Ohio Revised Code 1707 stipulates that the duties of the humane society. The dog warden is under the sheriff office and the cats under the humane society.

Lorson: Guessing that they deal with dogs because the licenses generate funds for the dog warden.

Mosley: We don't have a dog nuisance issues. Dogs running at large usually go back to a home.

Mayor: As long as people keep feeding/putting food out, it will continue. There is a free kitten sign on Market Street that shows up about every 9 weeks for new litters.

Vance: Thank you for bringing this issue to light for our citizens.

Standing Committee Reports

Transportation – Mosley: We met Sept. 25 to go over the 2024 master street plan. Each council member had an opportunity to discuss any streets in their ward. On our 2024 list is Bell Avenue from High to Market, McGill – from Pine to Paradise, Washington Blvd – High to Church. The budget is around \$1.1 M while hoping for a \$500,000 grant. If we do not get the grant we will go back to the table.

Administrative Reports

Mayor Dave Handwerk: The employee of the month is Abbie Wilson, the city staff engineer. And our first P.E. – Professional Engineer – in the history of the city. A proclamation for public power week was read.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: Service Department is crack sealing and expecting the final part for the pickle ball lights this week. FEMA and FCC will test their mass communication system through TV, radio and cellphones Tuesday. The Office of Criminal Justice Services for Ohio announced that the Orrville Police Department was recertified by the Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board. Recertification means the city continues to meet the standards established by the Ohio Collaborative regarding many police including use of force and hiring and retention. Congratulations to Chief Birkbeck, Captain Pauley and our fine staff of officers on this honor and their commitment to excellence.

Utility Director Brediger: We are 1 over just over 2,000 public power communities in the United States and serve about 49 million customers and locally about 7200 with about a third outside of our corporation limits. Typical restoration times are twice as quick as AEP and First Energy. We have competitive rates with the same electric rate structure since September 2016 which is about 50% under AEP's residential rates and about 40% under First Energy rates. Our electric distribution and our power plant employees received a safety accommodation for working an entire year with zero lost time accidents – no accidents. Congratulations to that group. Water system study continues. Brightspeed contractors are working in the utility right of way hanging fiber optic lines on our existing poles. If you have issues, let our office know we will link you up with them. Ohio Senator Al Landis is coming Thursday to tour the power plant.

Old Business

Resolution 29-23, Lorson moved that it be placed on third reading. Aspiras seconded. All ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 29-23**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements with Atlantic Emergency Solutions, Inc., to purchase through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program a Pierce 100 Foot Tower Ladder Truck with Enforcer Cab and Aluminum Body and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: Atlantic Emergency Solutions agreed to eat any PPI increases that may be forthcoming. Also a performance bond is in the contract as well. There is a 1358 day wait time. It will replace the American LaFrance 2000 80-foot ladder truck with a larger Pierce truck. Ours will be close to 27 years old when we receive the new truck. Financing of this truck will be discussed under Ordinance J-23.

Lorson moved that **Resolution 30-23** be adopted as read. Squirrell seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

New Business

Ordinance H-23, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Mosley seconded. All ayes; motion passes. **Ordinance H-23**, amount of City of Orrville, Ohio Health Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2023 (OrrVilla, Inc. Project), for the purpose of refunding certain health facilities Revenue Bonds previously issued to assist OrrVilla, Inc. in financing a portion of the costs of constructing and acquiring certain hospital facilities within the City and paying for certain additional capital expenditures, and paying for the costs associated with the issuance of the Series 2023 Bonds, authorizing the execution and delivery of a base lease and lease and assignment to the original purchaser of the bonds and any other documents or instruments in connection with the issuance of those bonds, authorizing and approving related matters, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: Strimlan previously sent a memo regarding the general background and a summary of the transaction. Atty. Burlingame from Squire Patton Boggs spoke, being here

to assist the city with debt finance matters, issuing bonds for non-profits. In this case, facilities associated with health care. The city has done this before, in 2008 for OrrVilla. This helps them obtain federal tax exemption on the interest on the bond if it is issued by a governmental body. Ohio defines that as a city, county, or the state typically. The most important point is that this is not a debt of the city, no city obligation to repay the bonds. That is the obligation of OrrVilla. The city is providing the means by which they can achieve lower interest on their debt and thereby have more funds to serve their patients and residents. This will refinance the 2008 bonds and provide additional improvements to Maple Terrace. Commercial & Savings Bank will buy the bond. This requires a public hearing. That will be published this Friday for the October 16th meeting.

Ordinance I-23, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Carr seconded. All ayes; motion passes. **Ordinance I-23**, An Ordinance amending Section 151.07(a) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Orrville, Ohio, Life, Health and Dental Insurance, repealing all legislation inconsistent herewith, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: HR Manager Phil McFarren sent a memo out. He could not be here this evening. The city has traditionally offered Health Fair and Wellness program for employees. The program has been dormant since COVID. Aultcare Well Works program was chosen. Previous legislation is not specifically outline a wellness program. This incorporates the language. Does not need to pass this evening.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of an ordinance on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. All yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Ordinance I-23** be adopted as read. Squirrell seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Clerk: The Fiscal Officers Certificate for Ordinance J-23 is on file.

Ordinance J-23, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Aspiras seconded. All ayes; motion passes. **Ordinance J-23**, An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$2,000,000 to pay costs of acquiring a fire truck, together with the necessary appurtenances thereto, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: This ordinance is necessary to complete the fire truck purchase approved with Resolution 29-23. This provides for financing through a bond issue with the maximum amount of bonds at \$2M, a maximum interest rate of 5%, and a ten-year maturity. This anticipates the bond sale with the electric utility through the city's treasury investment board. 15 days after the treasury board approves it the funds will be released. Council will then be sent the amortization schedule. With this bond, the interest money will stay in town.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of an ordinance on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. All yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Ordinance J-23** be adopted as read. Squirrell seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Resolution 34-23, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Handwerk seconded. All ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 34-23**, 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: Changes to the final appropriations are for the American Rescue Fund to spend the final allocation with the water and waste water infrastructure projects. The second is for Bloomin' Orrville costs that have increased. Final change is the Electric Utility Reserve Fund. Payroll can be charged to the revenue or reserve fund if for capital projects. This year there were more rebuilds that are charged to the reserve fund so we are swapping from the revenue fund to put in the reserve fund. All utilities have payroll coming out of the general operating fund, the revenue fund and capital funds with the split dependent on the projects.

