

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 8, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at the Village Office, Russia, Ohio. Mayor, Terence Daugherty called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Alex Seger
Nicole Doseck
Mary Jo High
Scott Armstrong

Absent: Brandon Simon
Jake Borchers

Non-members present: Jared Goubeaux, Administrator, Mary Jo Voisard, Fiscal Officer, Solicitor Craig Albers, Nick Selhorst of Choice One Engineering, and Mike Busse.

- The minutes of the April 11, 2024 regular meeting, and the April 27, 2024 special meeting were read, and a motion was made by High and seconded by Armstrong to approve the meeting minutes. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Armstrong and seconded by High to approve the bills as presented. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Seger and seconded by Doseck to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All yeas, motion passed.

Police

Sheriff Frye was not present at the meeting, but Council reviewed the report of activity for the previous month. Activity was routine.

Finance

Voisard said that income tax receipts for April were up \$43,307.99 from April, 2023. She said that the 2024 year to date receipts are \$27,600 higher than 2023. She reported that interest receipts from Star Ohio were \$12,982.55 with a 30 day yield of 5.46% during April.

Voisard said that there were minor changes to the Human Resource Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. One change was to add the ½ day holiday for Good Friday, and the other was to add a section regarding cyber security. A motion to suspend the rules was made by High and seconded by Doseck. All yeas, motion passed.

Seger moved and Armstrong seconded the policy approving **Ordinance 24-10 authorizing the Village of Russia Ohio to amend their Human Resources Policy and Procedures Manual, and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yeas, motion passed.

OSIP Grant

Voisard said that the local representative for Jobs Ohio said that the Grant reimbursement is in the final stages of approval, and that she is continuing to follow up. The payment will be made to CEMLEB, and CEMLEB had a contractual agreement to reimburse the Village \$190,820 for contributions the Village made to the project. This payment was to be made to the Village when the grant is received. Since CEMLEB paid the Village \$30,000 for the lot, and the lot was to be provided at no cost, and adjustment needs to be made to the amount CEMLEB will reimburse the Village from the grant. The following ordinance reduces the amount of CEMLEB's reimbursement to \$160,820.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Doseck and seconded by Seger. All yeas, motion passed.

Armstrong moved and High seconded the motion approving **Ordinance 24-13 Amending the real estate purchase agreement with CEMLEB Properties, LTD and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yeas, motion passed.

Natureworks Grant for Park Path

Goubeaux said that he will be discussing the paving for the park path with Fillmore, since they were the successful bidder on the street repaving project. He said that Village employees will lay the conduit for the lighting, and prepare the path for the final coat of paving prior to the time that Fillmore does the street project. High said that the other park paths are beginning to look bad. Goubeaux said that he will get quotes for repaving all paths.

Speed Limit change on Russia Rd. and No parking on the south side of West Main

A third reading was held for Ordinance 24-05. Armstrong moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-05 reducing the speed limit on Russia Road from the railroad tracks to East Main Street, and to have no parking signs on the south side of West Main Street from Liberty Street to 242 W. Main Street and amending the traffic control map.** All yea, motion passed.

Commerce Drive Extension

Goubeaux said that nothing has been done by Adam Sturm to correct the problems previously discussed. Daugherty said he will call Matt Hoying.

Waste Water Grant

Selhorst said that they still have not heard whether the Lift Station Upgrade Grant has been approved.

ODNR Grant Pavilion and Splash Pad

Armstrong moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve the payment of payment application #6 from Level MB for \$228,257.67, All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux said that the splash pad is complete, but the seating wall around it has not been done, and the final grading around it was not in the Level MB contract, so that still needs to be finished as well as landscaping.

He said that the pavilion should be completed by May 17, and that the Park Board is purchasing the tables and chairs, which should arrive in about 2 weeks.

He said that the Pavilion rental software has been tested, and is working well. He said it should be ready to rent by June 1. He said he would put out a notice later in May giving instructions about how to rent the pavilion.

Goubeaux said that one of the private donors would like to have an opening ceremony. No date was set for that.

AT&T

Albers said that he is continuing communication with AT&T about the renewal of the contract, but AT&T has not yet signed the agreement. He said he has a conference call with them next week.

Easement Agreement with BBS Charities

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Armstrong and seconded by Seger.

High moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-12 authorizing the Village of Russia to enter into an ingress/egress and parking easement agreement with BBS Charities, LLC, and Declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Hiring

High moved, and Seger seconded the motion to hire Aiden Shappie as a full time maintenance employee at the rate of \$25 per hour. All yea, motion passed. He will start on May 13. He will be replacing Barney Francis who is retiring on June 28. Shappie is a licensed electrician, and will be able to do some of the work that previously had to be contracted out. Shappie has agreed to work towards his license for Water and Sewer Operator.

Paving

Selhorst said that the bid opening for the paving of Francis St., Main St., and St. Remy St. was held on May 2, 2024 with bids received as follows:

Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.	\$133,292.96
Buehler Asphalt Paving, Inc.	\$134,692.30
Fillmore Construction, LLC	\$106,827.65
Wagner Paving	\$135,882.76

The engineers estimate for the project was \$128,135.00.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Seger and seconded by Armstrong. All yea, motion passed. Doseck moved and High seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-11 Determining the lowest and best bid on 2024 Paving and Authorizing a contract with Fillmore Construction LLC, as the successful bidder, and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Animals in the Village

A third reading was held for Ordinance 24-8 specifying that the only animals than can be raised in the Village are chickens (excluding roosters) and rabbits, and limiting the number of animals to five. Seger moved and Armstrong seconded the motion approving **Ordinance 24-8 prohibiting keeping or raising certain livestock within the Village.** All yea, motion passed.

Drinking Fountains

Goubeaux said that he had quotes for 3 drinking fountains. One would be to replace the damaged one at the Park, one for the pavilion, and one spare. The spare may be needed to replace the one at the Veterans Park that is not currently working. Armstrong moved, and Seger seconded the motion to purchase 3 drinking fountains at a total cost of \$3,897.00. All yea, motion passed.

Large Item trash pickup

Goubeaux said that the large item trash pickup has tentatively been scheduled for May 18 from 8-12. As soon as arrangements are completed, he will notify village residents.

Park Restrooms

Goubeaux said that he had obtained a quote from Ferguson construction for the renovation of the old park restrooms. The quote was \$55,420.00. He said that this was more than he felt Council wanted to pay for the project, and council agreed. He said he had several other contractors he was checking with. The alternative would be for him to oversee the project, and hire individual contractors for plumbing, painting, tuck pointing, etc. He will bring more information to the next meeting.

Sale of Property

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Doseck, and seconded by Armstrong. Armstrong moved and Seger seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-14 Designating certain public lands as being not required for Municipal purposes, Authorizing the Village to enter into a real estate purchase agreement with ELO Properties, LLC, an Ohio Limited Liability Company, to sell such public lands, Authorizing the Russia Community Improvement Corporation to sell such public lands as an agent for the Village Pursuant to O.R.C. 1724.10, and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Lighting at Buschur's Market Parking Lot

Goubeaux said that the supplies for the new lighting have been received, and that he has a quote from Area Electric to install them. Daugherty said to see if Aiden Shappie feels he can handle the project before contracting it out. Goubeaux said that he was contacted by a Village resident saying that cars are not stopping at the crosswalk, and that they are going faster than the 25 mile per hour speed limit. Daugherty said that he definitely wants the crosswalk repainted including hashmarks so that it is more visible. He said that a sign to the east of the crosswalk saying crosswalk ahead may be helpful.

Mike Busse said that Versailles has a crosswalk light at one of their crosswalks that has a pushbutton that activates the light when a pedestrian wants to cross. Goubeaux said he had priced one several months ago, and it was over \$8,000. He said council reviewed the quote at that time, and felt that it wasn't necessary. Daugherty said he would look at the one Versailles has, and it can be discussed at a future meeting. Daugherty said he will also contact the Sheriff's office to have them monitor the speed in that area.

Voisard St./Borchers St. reseeded

Goubeaux said he has contacted Gehret Nursery about reseeding the area between Voisard and Borchers streets. He received a quote from them for Prepping soil, seeding, fertilizing, blowing straw and crimping straw 26,000 Sq. Ft. and Grading. Their quote was \$9,000.00. He said the Village would bring in the dirt and do rough leveling.

A motion to approve the above expenditure was made by Doseck and seconded by Armstrong. All yea, motion passed.

Well Maintenance

Goubeaux said that Wiley Well has inspected the wells, and one of them needs the pump replaced. This needs to be installed before the splash starts operating, so it has been ordered. The cost is between \$10,000 and \$11,000.

Miscellaneous

Goubeaux said that he is in the process of purchasing Diamond Dry and some other materials needed for the ball diamonds. He said that the RCJAA and Russia School have agreed to split the costs of the diamond dry three ways. That cost was \$790.45. He said he is purchasing additional supplies for approximately \$1,305 for summer baseball with will be split between RCJAA and the Village.

Goubeaux said that materials to correct the water problems at 242 West Main have been received and will be installed soon.

Goubeaux said that the new trash cans received with the recycling grant have been placed throughout the park.

Goubeaux said that there is a lot of clover in the main detention pond in the Village. Daugherty said Village employees could spray it, but clover is hard to get rid of.

Seeger moved and Armstrong seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. All yea, motion passed.

Council President, Mary Jo High _____

Clerk, Mary Jo Voisard _____