VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES June 13, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Thursday, June 13, 2024 at the Village Office, Russia, Ohio. Mayor, Terence Daugherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Alex Seger Nicole Doseck Mary Jo High Scott Armstrong Jake Borchers Absent: Brandon Simon

Non-members present: Jared Goubeaux, Administrator, Mary Jo Voisard, Fiscal Officer, Chris Ellington, acting for Village Solicitor Craig Albers, Nick Selhorst of Choice One Engineering, and Adam Barga.

- The minutes of the May 8, 2024 regular meeting were read, and a motion was made by Borchers and seconded by Armstrong to approve the meeting minutes. All yea, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Seger and seconded by Armstrong to approve the bills as presented. All yea, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Doseck and seconded by High to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All yea, 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 May were up \$76,700 from May, 2023. She said that the 2024 year to date receipts are \$104,688 higher than 2023. She reported that interest receipts from Star Ohio were \$14,334 with a 30 day yield of 5.44% during May.

Voisard said that appropriation modifications are necessary for 2024 as follows:Capital Projects Fund 4901Increase by \$178,000Utilities Construction and Maintenance FundIncrease by \$200,000A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Seger and seconded by High.Armstrong moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-09 amending the 2024Appropriations of the Village of Russia and declaring the same to be an emergency.All yea, motion passed.

Sale of Property

Chris Ellington said that Craig Albers had prepared two ordinances addressing issues that First National Bank of New Bremen wanted regarding the Village's right of refusal in the original contract. A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Doseck, and seconded by High. Armstrong moved and Seger seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-16 Amending the real estate purchase agreement with ELO Properties LLC and Ohio Limited Liability Company and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

A motion to suspend the three reading rule was made by Doseck, and seconded by High. Seger moved and Borchers seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-17 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a subordination agreement with First National Bank in New Bremen and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Lift Station Upgrade Grant

Nick Selhorst said that the Infrastructure grant for the lift station upgrade was approved. Funds have to be obligated by December 31, 2024. He said that the engineers estimate for the project was \$481,000, and there is a 10% Village match, plus the Village is responsible for Engineering.

Doseck moved and Borchers seconded the motion to approve the contract with Choice One Engineering for \$47,900. All yea, motion passed.

Commerce Drive update

Goubeaux said that Adam Sturm has touched up some areas at Commerce Drive and will come back when the ground is dry to complete the project.

Daugherty said Village employees should cut the grass more often at Commerce Drive.

OSIP Grant

Voisard said that the local representative for Jobs Ohio said that the Grant reimbursement is still in the final stages of approval. It has been approved at the local level and is now at the executive level.

Natureworks Grant for Park Path

High had mentioned at the May meeting that the existing park paths are starting to look bad, and it would be nice to repave them when the new paths are paved. Goubeaux said he will get quotes to grind and repave the older paths when the new Park Paths are done.

ODNR Grant Pavilion and Splash Pad

Armstrong moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve the payment of payment application #7 from Level MB for \$145,772.62. All yea, motion passed. Only the retainage of \$97,085.11 remains. This will not be paid until all items on the punch list are completed.

Goubeaux said that there is a leak in the splash pad due to incorrect installation by Shinn Brothers. He said Shinn Brothers admitted fault, and will be making repairs. A piece of the concrete will have to be removed to get to the leaky area, and the splash pad will have to be down for about one week. At this time the date has not been finalized.

Goubeaux showed council members a rendition of the Plaque listing donors that will be installed either on the pavilion or on posts near the pavilion. Council decided that they would like to see it installed on the pavilion.

The first date the pavilion will be rented is June 15. Goubeaux said he had talked to the renter to tell them that a few things have not been completed, and he said they understood.

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.

Paving

A notice of Award was signed for Fillmore Construction LLC for the 2024 Street paving project.

Park Restrooms

Goubeaux said that he had obtained a quote from Weigandt Construction for the renovation of the old park restrooms for \$33,104.00. The previous quote from Ferguson construction was \$55,420.00. Goubeaux said the alternative would be for him to act as project manager and try to hire various contractors to do the work. Council felt that it would be better to just chose one of the quotes and move on since this has been discussed for about five years.

Borchers moved and Seger seconded the motion to accept the quote from Weigandt Construction for the renovation of the restrooms. All yea, motion passed.

Street Light Assessment

Voisard said that each year council has to determine if the assessments made for Village street lights are adequate to meet expenses. She said that over the last 3 years assessments have been enough to cover expenses. Council decided to keep the assessments the same.

Amounts are:	
Commercial	\$159.68
Industrial	\$119.75
Residential	\$ 72.32

A motion to suspend the 3 reading rule was made by Doseck and seconded by Seger. All yea, motion passed. High moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-15 setting the annual lighting assessment on all lots located within the village and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Maintenance Building

Goubeaux said that he would also like to have a 38x80 lean-to added to the back of the Maintenance building, and that he will bring quotes to the next council meeting.

Lighting at Buschur's Market Parking Lot

Goubeaux said that Aiden Shappie will be installing one of the lights in the Market parking lot this month on the existing pole.

Daugherty said he had looked at the crossing light at Versailles. It is activated by pushing a button, and a light flashes to alert drivers of a pedestrian wanting to cross. High said she had also looked at it, and neither one was very impressed. Goubeaux said the cost would be around \$8,000. He said that ODOT offers a grant that he will apply for. The matter was tabled until next month.

Voisard St./Borchers St. reseeding

Goubeaux said they have brought in soil and are doing rough grading for the area to be reseed this fall.

Well Maintenance

Goubeaux said the new pump has been installed in Well #1, and all wells are scheduled for sterline cleaning.

Miscellaneous

Goubeaux said that the items to correct the water problems at 242 West Main have been installed, and the owner said there have been no problems since the installation.

Goubeaux reported that the following items were completed this month:

Library reading path has been installed Dog Waste signs have been installed Concrete prep for RCJAA batting cage New drinking fountains installed

Daugherty said that Ricky Stephan told him that by October he needs to report what type of water line is going into each house in the Village. This would be the line running from the street to the residence. He said that as water meters are replaced, they can be collecting the information.

Daugherty said that someone offered to give the Village an electric tow motor. They asked that the Village keep the battery charged in case they needed to use it. He said that it is probably just on loan in case the owner decides he needs it back in the future, but Goubeaux said it would be very useful. Council approved.

Daugherty said that he has been upset to see coaches allowing ball players to be in the dugouts during storms with lightening. He said he has talked to coaches every year, but with the changes in coaches it is an ongoing problem. He said some towns have a lightening alarm, and require all players to leave the field and either go to a car or inside a building. Steve Rose said they could use the track storage building for that purpose. Coaches would be given the code for entry. Goubeaux said he would get a quote on a lightening alarm.

Daugherty said he received information from AGE about the upcoming rates for electric aggregation. He said he was told the rate beginning in October would be .0719 for 12 months fixed rate. He said he had found fixed 12 month rates for less on Apples to Apples rate comparisons, and has contacted AGE to express his dissatisfaction.

Doseck moved and High seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. All yea, motion passed.

Council President, Mary Jo High _____

Clerk, Mary Jo Voisard _____