

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

December 11, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Wednesday, December 11, 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
Scott Armstrong
Brandon Simon
Mary Jo High
Jake Borchers

Non-members present: Craig Albers, Solicitor and Brad Walterbusch of Choice One Engineering.

- The minutes of the November 13, 2024 regular meeting were read, and a motion was made by Borchers and seconded by High to approve the meeting minutes. All ye, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Doseck and seconded by Simon to approve the bills as presented. All ye, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Seger and seconded by Doseck to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All ye, motion passed.

Police

Council reviewed the report of police activity for the past month. Reported items were routine.

Finance

The year to date income tax receipts are now about \$65,000 less than they were through November, 2023. Receipts are still well ahead of 2021 and 2022.

Interest receipts for November 2024 were \$14,349.99 with an annualized yield of 4.86%.

Voisard said additional funds are needed for the appropriation to the Water Fund for 2024. This is due to the Generator that has been ordered, but not yet received for the Generator Grant.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Simon and seconded by Armstrong. All ye, motion passed.

Doseck moved and Seger seconded the motion to approve **Ordinance 24-23 to increase appropriations in the Water fund by \$50,000 for 2024**. All ye, motion passed.

Seger moved and Borchers seconded the motion to approve temporary appropriations for 2025 as follows:

General Fund	\$25,000
Street Fund	\$ 8,000
Street Light Fund	\$ 5,000
Capital Improvement Fund	\$75,000
Sewer Fund	\$10,000
Water Fund	\$10,000

All ye, motion passed.

High moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve the Storage Space lease with Grosjean Properties for 2025 for \$600. All ye, motion passed.

No decision was made on which streets will be repaved in 2025, but the Mayor and council members will review them before the next council meeting and make a decision.

Lift Station Upgrade Grant

Several bids have been received, but no decision has been made about whether to use an above ground pump or a submerged pump. A final decision will be made after the first of the year.

ODOT Grant

Walterbusch said Choice One Engineering determined that the Village does not qualify for the ODOT Grant for East Main Street.

Brush Grinding

The Grinding has been completed, and the grindings are better than they have been with the company that has done it in previous years.

Park

Groff Lawn care has completed the fertilization and weed control at the park.

Pavilion and Splash Pad

The sitting wall at the splash pad will be installed sometime in December, weather permitting. Goubeaux will be working with Simon on the acoustical panels for the pavilion. Brim has installed the ice guards on the roof.

Russia Inn

The Russia Inn wants 2 handicapped parking spaces, and one wheelchair ramp on their building. Daugherty said the handicapped parking spaces should be painted as soon as weather permits.

Lighting at the former Buschur’s Market Parking Lot

Approval has now been received to order the crosswalk sign. When the Village first applied for the ODOT grant, the quote for the push button lighted sign was \$10,000. ODOT approved the full amount. Another quote was obtained this week, and the price has increased to \$11,994.80. Council decided to move forward with the purchase and submit the full amount to ODOT to see if they approve the additional amount.

AT&T

Albers said that he is still being contacted by AT&T regarding the lease moving forward. He said that he thinks the Village should either stay with the current month to month agreement, or ask for a lease of no more than 5 to10 years. He will also tell them that he wants a simplified contract rather than the 99 page document previously submitted.

Miscellaneous

Wiley Well has completed the maintenance on Well # 3, and no major work was required.

High said that everything is in order for the closing of the US Bank property next week, but wiring instructions have not yet been received. She said as soon as she receives them, she will get them to Voisard to wire the funds for the proposed closing on Tuesday, December 17, 2024.

The furnace in the office area of the Maintenance building needs replaced. A quote has been received from North Star Plumbing in the amount of \$3,700. Simon moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to move forward with the purchase.

Salaries of Village employees were reviewed, with the following proposed changes:

	Previous salary	Proposed salary
Jared Goubeaux	\$28 per hour	\$30 per hour
Isaiah Counts	\$25 per hour	\$27 per hour
Mike Supinger	\$25 per hour	\$27 per hour
Bob Simon	\$20 per hour	\$21 per hour
Aiden Shappie	\$27 per hour	\$29 per hour

Armstrong moved and Doseck seconded the motion to approve the proposed increases. All yea, motion passed.

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

Council President, Mary Jo High _____

Clerk, Mary Jo Voisard _____