

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 12, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Wednesday, February 12, 2025 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
Absent: Jake Borchers

Non-members present: Chris Ellington, Solicitor, Brad Walterbusch of Choice One Engineering and Adam Barga

- The minutes of the January 8, 2025 regular meeting, and the January 26, 2025 special meeting were read, and a motion was made by Doseck and seconded by High to approve the meeting minutes. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Simon and seconded by Seger to approve the bills as presented. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Armstrong and seconded by Doseck to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All yeas, motion passed.

Police

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

Finance

Interest receipts for January 2025 were \$13,955.88 with a 30 day yield of 4.53%. The income tax receipts for January 2025 were \$78,264.76. This compares to receipts for January of 2024 of \$227,734. Voisard said that this sometimes happens in January when a larger business paid higher than necessary estimated payments the previous January, and it is carried over to the next year. She said total income tax may for the year be lower than the last 2 years.

Street Paving

No decision was made on which streets will be repaved in 2025. Goubeaux said he would send the list of streets being considered to council members so they can look at the streets and make a decision at the March Council meeting. He said he will also send the list to Choice one and they can bring a cost estimate for each street to the March meeting. Adam Barga asked if there are any plans to pave the parking lot with is owned by ELO Properties. The Village holds an easement for part of the parking lot. He said he thinks the island should be removed and he would eventually like to pave behind the building. He said there is a water problem behind the building that he thinks he can remedy by installing a catch basin, which he plans to do. Daugherty said the Village should have plenty of grindings available for use behind the building. Council said they can get a cost estimate on paving, but it wouldn't necessarily be this year.

Barga also mentioned that Weigandt, who was renovating his building as well as the Park restrooms used his dumpster for both projects, so he had to have it dumped more often. Daugherty and Simon said that Weigandt should take care of the cost difference.

Barga also asked about signs for the entrance and exit of the parking lot. Goubeaux said it was decided that the sign for the exit would be replaced, but the Village does not want to install a sign and the entrance, as it would further obstruct the view of the crosswalk. He said that Village Employees will paint an arrow on the pavement.

Lift Station Upgrade Grant

Walterbusch said that the project will go out for bids on February 19, and the contract can be awarded at the March meeting.

Mower

Goubeaux said the mower sold for \$6,200, so we will move ahead with the purchase of the new mower from Flora at \$11,279.00. Armstrong moved and Borchers seconded the motion to move forward with the purchase as approved at the January Council meeting.

Natureworks Grant for Park Path

Goubeaux said he has filed the grant reimbursement. The total Grant was for \$21,693.00. He said he couldn't request the full amount yet, as not all work has been done. He said we are waiting for better weather to install the conduit and wiring for future lighting. The amount requested on the first request was \$19,523.70.

Commerce Drive Extension

Armstrong moved and Simon seconded the motion to approve the contract with Choice One Engineering in the amount of \$1,900 to prepare a subdivision plat to create new lots 3 and 13 in the Commerce Industrial Park. All yea, motion passed.

Luthman Concrete

Goubeaux said that he had an invoice from Luthman Concrete for \$3,200 for excavation work done on the North side of Steve Smiths building at the Commerce Industrial park "per conversation with Terry." Daugherty said they had discussed it, and he told him to go ahead with it, but he had no idea that it would be that much.

Week End On call schedule

Goubeaux said that he and Mayor Daugherty met with Fort Loramie Village officials about the possibility of sharing week end on call duties. They were proposing that each of the 4 employees (2 from Russia and 2 from Fort Loramie) would cover 1 week end a month. They would not be responsible for removing snow or spreading salt or any community functions. We would compensate our employees 6 hours for being on call. They would work Monday-Thursday 8 hours, 3 hours on Saturday, and 3 hours on Sunday. We would no longer be using our week end people that we now employ. Simon said things seemed confusing, and if they can work things out to satisfaction, council will take another look at it.

Zoning

Daugherty asked Goubeaux to report zoning applications each month. He said this month they had an application from Brad Francis to install a pool.

Ohio Basic Code

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

Armstrong moved and Simon seconded the motion approving **Ordinance 25-4 approving, adopting and enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code, 2025 Edition, as the code of ordinances for the municipality of Russia, Ohio, and declaring the same to be an emergency.** All yea, motion passed.

Miscellaneous

Goubeaux said he has received a quote from Kleem for signage for the crosswalk and for upgraded signage at the playground and splashpad. Total quote was \$959.97. Council approved the purchase. There is a \$1,000 grant each year for safety measures that he will use to offset the cost.

Goubeaux also had a contract from Buschur Electric for annual maintenance of the generators. He said they have been doing it for some time, but they want a contract signed. The 2025 hourly rate is \$82.00. High moved and Doseck seconded the motion to enter into the contract. All yea, motion passed.

High reported that Osgood bank feels their FDIC approval will come through soon so we will be able to move forward with closing on the building.

Simon moved and High seconded the motion to enter executive session to discuss the purchase of property, and hiring. All yea, motion passed.

Armstrong moved and Simon seconded the motion to leave executive session. All yea, motion passed.

No action was taken.

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

Council President, Mary Jo High _____

Clerk, Mary Jo Voisard _____