

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

April 9, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at the Village Office, Russia, Ohio. In the absence of Mayor, Terence Daugherty, Council president Mary Jo High called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Non-members present: Jared Goubeaux, Administrator, Chris Ellington, Solicitor, Nick Selhorst of Choice One Engineering, and Adam Barga.

- The minutes of the March 12, 2025 regular meeting were read, and a motion was made by Doseck and seconded by Borchers to approve the meeting minutes. All ye, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Armstrong and seconded by Doseck to approve the bills as presented. All ye, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Borchers and seconded by Armstrong 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

Interest receipts for March were \$13,844.88 with a 30 day yield of 4.46%. The income tax receipts through March 2025 are \$302,753.09 which compares to receipts through the month of March in 2024 of \$451,436.64.

Street Paving

Selhorst said that Choice one is currently working on the plans for the paving project.

The following will be paved this year.

Borchers Street

Voisard Street

West Main Street-Francis St. to Liberty St.

Downtown Parking lot that serves Restore Physical Therapy, the St. Joseph Centre, and the Russia Inn

He had some questions about the Downtown parking lot. Goubeaux told him that the entire lot will be paved, with the cost split between the Village, Restore Physical Therapy, and St. Joseph Centre. The Village will pay for the portion that they have an easement on, with the other to property owners paying the cost of their portion.

Choice One Engineering will bring projected costs to the next council meeting.

Armstrong moved and Borchers seconded the motion to approve the contract with Choice One Engineering for professional services of the 2025 street paving in the amount of \$4,780.00. All ye, motion passed.

Lift Station Upgrade Grant

Selhorst said that they have advertised for bids again after making some adjustments in the specifications for the project. The bids are now due on April 16, 2025.

OPWC 2026

Selhorst said a possible OPWC grant application would be for sewer lining. With our aging system there have been issues, and he said this type of grant generally scores very well. Goubeaux said he thought the Village could do the cameraing to identify the problem areas. The project may require sewer lining or line replacement.

Hiring of Fiscal Officer

Voisard said that she has been doing training with Deidre Kearns, and that she will assume fiscal officer duties on May 1, 2025.

PIRG Grant

Goubeaux said that he has received an application for a PIRG Grant for Restore Physical Therapy. He said he wanted to wait until the May meeting to discuss it when there are more council members and the mayor in attendance.

Annexation

Mitchell Heuing, 1920 Russia Versailles Rd. has asked to have his property annexed into the Village. He is adding onto his home, and his septic tank did not pass inspection. He is requesting water and sewer hookup. This would require the property at 1960 Russia Versailles Rd. to also be annexed, as they are already receiving water services but could not be annexed until an adjoining property annexed. Details are still being worked out on the cost of services, as it will require boring under the road to run the sewer line.

Goubeaux said he would like to reach out to other homeowners in that area who have not annexed, to see if they are interested in annexing at this time. He will draft a letter and provide it to the other property owners.

Doseck moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve the quote for \$2,979.52 from Ruhenkamp Boring and Trenching to bore and install sewer pipe.

Purchase of Ford F150

Goubeaux said he had a quote from Valley Truck Centers for \$42,689.00. This is under the State of Ohio Government Contract rate. He said build time is approximately 18 weeks. Armstrong moved and Borchers seconded the motion to accept the quote from Valley Truck Centers. All yea, motion passed.

Stick Pickup

Village Employees will pick up sticks on the first and third Monday of the month beginning in May. The Village's intention in providing this service is to assist residents that may have small tree branches that fall in their yard due to wind or a storm. The only material that will be picked up is small tree branches. Yard Waste such as hedge trimmings, leaves and/or flowers will NOT be picked up. Those materials can be taken out to the compost facility by the resident and placed in the manure spreader.

Miscellaneous

The May regular Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th at 7 p.m. at the Village office.

Goubeaux said he has submitted the claim for reimbursement for the Generator grant. There will be a site visit on April 15 to inspect it, then payment should be received.

Goubeaux said that the deed transfer requested by Dan Paulus for the detention pond on Liberty Street will be submitted soon.

Goubeaux said Ash tree treatment will begin soon. The Village will treat the trees in the park, and then reach out to homeowners who have had their trees treated in the past. He will also notify residents that this service is available if others are interested. Homeowners are charged for the cost of supplies and labor.

Goubeaux said that the Russia Community Fund is asking for member nominations, and he feels it would be appropriate to have a village council member nominated. Borchers said he would check it out and may be interested.

Goubeaux said that village employees have been servicing our mini excavator, but more extensive service is now needed, and they feel it should be done by Ohio Cat. Doseck moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve the quote from Ohio Cat for \$1,781.36. All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux said that the Russia Inn is planning a Cinco DeMayo celebration on Saturday, May 3 from 2 to 10 p.m. They are planning to have a band in the Bensman's Garage parking lot. There will be a tent beside the Inn, and they are requesting permission to close North Street from 2 to 10pm. After discussing, council had no objection.

Goubeaux said he has received a quote from Reliable Business Solutions for \$1,705.98 for a computer for the water plant.

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

Barga said that there will be an Open House at Restore Physical Therapy on April 26, 2024 from 1 to 4 p.m. A ribbon cutting with the Chamber of Commerce will be held on May 8 at noon.

Armstrong moved and Borchers seconded the motion to enter executive session to discuss the purchase or sale of property. All yea, motion passed.

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

No action was taken.

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 _____