

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES May 13, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at the Village Office, Russia, Ohio. Mayor, Terence Daugherty, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Roll Call

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

Non-Members Present

Jared Goubeaux – Administrator
Mary Jo Voisard – Fiscal officer, retired
Deidre Kearns – Fiscal officer
Nick Selhorst – Choice One
Engineering
Chris Ellington - Solicitor

Community Members Present

Ola Schafer
Mike Schafer
Ethan Schafer
Gary Heuing
Mitchell Heuing
Sam Heuing
Jordan Monnin

- The minutes of the April 9th regular meeting and the April 16th special meeting were read, and a motion was made by High and seconded by Seger to approve the meeting minutes. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Borchers and seconded by Simon to approve the bills as presented. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Doseck and seconded by Simon to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All yeas, motion passed.

Annexation

Discussion was held with the property owners present regarding the letter they received detailing the possibility of their annexation into the village. Answered questions regarding potential costs, benefits and future ramifications. Council requested that each homeowner respond in writing by May 31st as to their wishes regarding annexation. Choice One is working on a construction standard for the grinder pump package the homeowner would be required to provide. Community member also asked if the annexation of enough properties take place in that area if the village could look into lowering the speed limit in that stretch of Russia Versailles Rd. Council will review this for possible future action.

Finance

Interest receipts for April were \$13,485.91 with a 30-day yield of 4.47%. The income tax receipts through April 2025 are \$380,871.93 which compares to receipts through the month of April in 2024 of \$658,460.70.

Motion to accept the resignation of Mary Jo Voisard as fiscal officer effective May 1, 2025 was made by Simon. Seconded by Borchers. All yeas, motion passed. Daugherty presented Mary Jo with a plaque thanking her for her years of outstanding service to the community.

Requested a motion to hire Mary Jo Voisard as a consultant on an as needed basis for continued training for the new fiscal officer. She will be reimbursed at a rate of \$29/hour. Motion by Doseck, second Simon. All yeas, motion passed.

High moved that Village Council appoint Deidre Kearns, the village fiscal officer, as the official designee to attend the Ohio Sunshine Laws (Public Records) Training on behalf of the entire Village

Council, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 109.43. Upon successful completion, the designee will provide the required certification to the Village and report back to Council. Armstrong seconded. All yea, motion passed.

Armstrong moved that the village council authorize the Fiscal Officer to pay recurring bills for utilities, payroll, insurance premiums, debt service, and other routine operational expenses as they become due, provided that a list of all such payments made shall be presented to Council at the next regular meeting for review and approval. Seger seconded. All yea, motion passed.

Lift Station Upgrade Grant

One bid was received from Ranger Earthworks to perform the upgrade at a cost of \$578,157. We have a \$500,000 grant for this work so out of pocket village costs will only be what is in excess of \$500,000. Council reviewed the bid and motion was made by Doseck to accept the bid. Seconded by Borchers. All yea, motion passed.

Water Treatment Plant Generator Grant

Council was notified that the reimbursement payment for the generator grant has been received.

Personnel Manual Updates

Goubeaux presented copies of proposed modifications to verbiage in the personnel manual to clarify "on call" definition and password security. Other modifications were discussed and a request was made to obtain copies from neighboring communities for comparison and further review.

Paving Project 2025

Selhorst reported that the bid ad will run in the SDN this week with a due date of June 5th assuming review during the June council meeting. Paving in 2025 will include Borchers Street, Voisard Street and West Main between Francis and Liberty Streets. Selhorst estimate for the cost is \$175,000. There was a discussion to also add line item for the paving of the shared parking lot of Restore Physical Therapy, St. Joseph Centre and the village easement. The cost for the business portion will be passed onto those businesses. Selhorst to add this to the bid package.

PIRG Grant

Grant application from Restore Physical Therapy was reviewed and discussed. Doseck motioned to award the grant in the amount of \$20,000. Chris Ellington to draw up the appropriate paperwork. Armstrong seconded. All yea, motion passed.

Miscellaneous

Received estimates from PSG for the purchase of state championship signs (\$537) and updated park map signs (\$800). Approved to move forward with this.

Deed transfer for the detention pond on Liberty Street has occurred.

Osgood Bank opened on Monday and Goubeaux sent out an announcement of their hours on the town Facebook page.

Daughtery requested a motion to approve the continuation of the CRA (community reinvestment agreement) with CEMLEB Properties, O'Francis properties and the Russia Inn & Tavern. High made the motion, Seger seconded. All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux reported that the ash tree treatments would be starting this week.

Borchers agreed to be the council representative on the Russia Community endowment fund grant committee.

Goubeaux reported that AGE will be negotiating on our behalf for electrical aggregation.

Goubeaux report two zoning requests this month: St Remy St. driveway and a swimming pool addition.

There was a discussion to work with the owners of the Russia Inn property to correct village right of way which currently incorrectly shows to be within the building. Daugherty to obtain pricing and received approval to move forward with getting this corrected.

Goubeaux reported that the grant funding for the ODOT crosswalk has been received.

Goubeaux presented a quote from Ferguson Waterworks in the amount of \$32,250.93 for the purchase of materials needed for the industrial park extension. Simon made the motion to approve the purchase, Armstrong seconded. All yea, motion passed.

High present options for new polywood style picnic tables for the pavilion patio. Uline ADA compliant X 1 - \$1285. Uline standard x 3 - \$1245. Motion to approve the purchase – Armstrong. Seconded by Seger. All yea, motion passed.

Executive Session

High motioned to move to executive session to discuss the purchase of property. Armstrong seconded. All yea, motion passed.

Simon made a motion to leave executive session. Borchers seconded. All yea, motion passed.

No actions taken.

Motion to adjourn – Doseck. Second – Armstrong. All yea, motion passed.

Council President, Mary Jo High _____

Clerk, Deidre Kearns _____