

VILLAGE OF RUSSIA

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES April 16, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Russia council was held Thursday, April 16, 2026 at the Village Office, Russia, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council

Nicole Doseck
Scott Armstrong
Tony Bergman
Jake Borchers
Brandon Simon
Alex Seger
Mary Jo High, Mayor

Non-Members Present

Jared Goubeaux – Administrator
Nick Selhorst – Choice One
Engineering
Micah Smock – Solicitor
Dee Kearns- Fiscal Officer
James R. Frye- Sheriff

Community Members

Regular Business

- The minutes of the March 10th, 2026 regular meeting were read, and a motion was made by Borchers and seconded by Simon to approve the meeting minutes. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Seger and seconded by Doseck to approve the bills as presented. All yeas, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Simon and seconded by Seger to approve the financial reports for the previous month. All yeas, motion passed.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff's log was reviewed. No unusual activity was noted.

Finance Report

- Investment Income
 - STAR Ohio – Balance \$3,824,098.68 – Income dividend \$12,258.69 (3.79%)
 - Osgood Bank – Balance \$1,242,728.15 Interest \$1,555.30
 - US Bank – Account closed
- Income Tax Receipts
 - March - \$73,729.75 This is a decrease of 35% over this time last year. Dee placed a call to St. Mary's to confirm if this was a timing issue with the payments but have not received confirmation.
- The audit for 2024 and 2025 is complete. The draft report was submitted to the state auditor for review and approval. Three Council members, Doseck, Simon and Borchers, signed the required documents provided by the auditor.

Choice One Report

- Ohio Public Works Commission Grant – SHE-RUS-2510 – Sewer Line
 - Choice One needs to review the inspection video that was provided by the village from a previous project.

- Plan is to go out to bid in June and award the job once the final award is made in July
- Industrial Park Federal Grant (EDA) – Project SHE-RUS-2509 Commerce Drive Phase 4
 - Grant application was submitted.
- OPWC Grants
 - Next round of funding opens in the fall. Council will continue to discuss ideas for submittal.

Annexation Properties – Sewer Line

Goubeaux reported on the sewer line extension along East Main Street with Ruhenkamp Trenching and Boring to begin work within the next couple of weeks, weather permitting.

Francis Replat-

Goubeaux reported that the Planning Commission met at a public meeting on April 8th at 6:30 p.m. and recommended approval of the replat. Lot 301 and 302 in the Paulus Subdivision will become lot 346. The purpose of the replat was to allow the property owner to combine the two lots allowing for them to build a residential structure in the center of the lots in the future. To accomplish this, a storm sewer needs to be moved and placed in a new utility easement. Choice One Engineering has confirmed that the storm sewer can be moved with no issues. Goubeaux stated that the property owner will cover all cost associated with this replat. Armstrong motioned to approve the replat of lots 301 and 302 in Paulus Subdivision to create Lot 346, seconded by Simon. All yea. Replat approved.

General Business

Sheriff Frye was asked about the Sheriff Department helping with Zoning Enforcement. Sheriff Frye stated they would be willing to help and that the enforcement of disabled vehicles in particularly easy. Frye suggested to Goubeaux to begin the zoning enforcement process by sending a certified notice to the property owner. If there is inaction by the property owner for 30 days, the Sheriff Department can come out with a towing company and remove the disabled vehicles. Sheriff Frye did state that the Village would be responsible for the tow bill. Smock stated that a quick search in the ORC stated that the Village could assess the property owner to recoup the tow bill.

Goubeaux reported that two aerator motors at the sewage lagoons had stopped working. He advised that the motors were sent out for diagnosis. Goubeaux requested funding not to exceed \$7,500 for the repair or replacement of both motors. Doseck motioned, seconded by Armstrong. All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux requested a motion to approve a quote for \$6,000 for Stellar Crane to dig holes and set poles for the Diamond 2 Light project. Motion made by Simon, seconded by Bergman. All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux requested a motion to approve a quote for \$2,910 for the electrical material for the Diamond 2 Light Project. Motion made by Borchers, seconded by Seger. All yea, motion passed.

Goubeaux attended a Russia Wellness Foundation meeting and RWF suggested a park path extension around Diamond 3 as a future project. Council will take this project in to consideration and further discuss this project next month. Goubeaux will get some budgetary numbers to do the work, he believes most of the work can be done by village employees.

Simon attended a webinar hosted by the Dayton Dragons in regard to a "Townie Night". This event would be sponsored by the Russia Wellness Foundation or another nonprofit within the Village. The local organization that sponsored this event would receive half the ticket price back. Mayor Higher reiterated that the Village can help advertise for the event but can not be financially involved. Simon stated he would take the idea to RWF.

Goubeaux noted to council that the cost for the final laying of pipe for the utilities on the commerce drive extension is to cost about \$30,000. He is still collection data but wanted to give them notice of the expected cost.

Mayor's Notes

- High stated she would be attending the Mayor's Conference in June. Doseck motioned to approve and cover the cost of 2 day expenses for conference and hotel. Bergman second. All yea, motion passed.
- High presented to council the idea of all council members getting dedicated village email address. Reliable Solutions provided pricing options to set up and the monthly service fees. Several council members are going to reach out to different IT companies for additional ideas and quotes.
- High stated that she has been in communication with Chris Ellington about the CIC audit. Chris stated that it should be completed by the deadline, May 1st.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Armstrong. Second - Simon. All yea, motion passed.

Council President, Jake Borchers _____

Clerk, Deidre Kearns _____