

Village of St. Paris
January 15, 2024
Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The invocation prayer was led by Councilor Terry Ervin.

Roll call was taken by Council President Pro-Temp Susan Prince. Joe Curran, Terry Ervin II and Tony Hoyt were present. Mayor Sam Ronicker, Frank Blair and Steve Lett were absent. Village Administrator Spencer Mitchell, Fiscal Officer Mark McGuire and Chief of Police Eric Smith were also present.

Motion was made by Councilor Curran and seconded by Councilor Ervin to approve the Council agenda. Motion passed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: none

JSP Fire District:

- Fire Chief Vance McCulla presented the 2023 End of Year Report for the JSP Fire District. Fire Chief McCulla stated that the district was awarded, thru grant money, \$223,809.52 for a new brush truck and that the renewal levy was passed to increase revenue. With the increase in revenue, the district has signed contracts for a new fire engine and a new medic unit. Fire Chief also noted that for the first time in history, the district took over 1,000 calls for service. The service calls totaled 1,078. Also, Ben Pence Jr was awarded Firefighter of the Year and James Woods was awarded EMT of the Year.

Motion was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the Council meeting minutes dated January 2, 2024. Motion passed.

Mayor's Remarks:

- Mayor Ronicker asked Councilor Prince to pass along information regarding council member seminars. Councilor Prince stated that if members of council wanted to attend any seminars, to contact Fiscal Officer McGuire to complete the registration. The village will pay for all registration fees.

The presentation of financials dated December 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the financial reports as presented. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Bank Reconciliation dated December 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Curran to approve the Bank Reconciliation. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of Water/Sewer Account Adjustments dated December 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the Water/Sewer Account Adjustments. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

The presentation of the Appropriation Supplemental dated December 31, 2023 was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the Appropriation Supplemental. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

Police Department:

- For the month of December, there were 52 recordable calls for service, 2 arrests for 4 criminal charges, and 9 citations issued.
- Officer Mercado resigned from her position as Police Officer. Officer Greg Marlow, formerly a part-time officer, is now a full-time police officer.
- Sergeant Pennington and Officer Marlow attended a 40-hour crisis intervention team training that was held in Urbana. The training was sponsored by the Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Service Board of Logan and Champaign Counties.

Administrator:

- The Harmon Park playground project is advertised and bids will be accepted until January 25, 2024. The bids will be brought to council for consideration in February. The project is to start in the summer and be completed in the fall. It includes reinstallation of playground equipment that is already owned by the Village as well as the purchase and installation of new playground equipment.
- Barger Heating and Air Conditioning installed a new furnace at the street department garage.
- The parking lot behind the Municipal Building was worked on just before the holiday season. This project allows for an additional 13-14 public parking spaces. Possibly in 2024, tie ins for the downspouts from the Municipal Building and a catch basin could be completed. This would help rainwater be directed away from the base of the Municipal Building. This project is included in the proposed 2024 permanent appropriations.
- A sewer maintenance project is being evaluated. The project consists of a new interior liner for the existing sewer lines. The liner significantly extends the useful life of the sewer line and does not require any digging/trench work. This project is included in the proposed 2024 permanent appropriations.

- Administrator Mitchell will attend a solar eclipse meeting on January 29, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the Champaign County Community Building auditorium in Urbana. The meeting is hosted by the Champaign County Visitors Bureau.
- Administrator Mitchell is working on a grant application through the Ohio EPA to assist with the funding of a new salt storage building. The grant funding is capped at \$75,000.

Committee Discussion:

JSP Fire Board:

- The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the firehouse. The meeting will begin with a records commission meeting with the regular meeting following.
- The JSP Fire Association is having a breakfast fundraiser on January 27, 2024, from 8:00 – 11:00 AM at the firehouse.

Planning Commission:

- The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2024 at 7:30 PM in the council room. The commission will be working on updating the village zoning map. Future issues of business will include reviewing the housing development regulations. The regulations were last updated in 2008.

Old Business:

- Councilor Ervin suggested that any decisions regarding committee appointments be delayed until all of council were in attendance.

New Business:

- Council was given a spreadsheet for 2024 permanent appropriations to review. Fiscal Officer McGuire asked council if they would want to have a work session meeting to discuss the 2024 permanent appropriations. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to conduct a council work session meeting on February 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the council room to discuss the 2024 permanent appropriations as well as committee appointment considerations. Motion passed. There will be no regular council meeting on February 5, 2024.
- Fiscal Officer McGuire informed council that with the new year, village records will be destroyed according to the village's record retention schedule.

Public Comments:

- Randy Smith, 321 E. Main Street, asked council to consider putting all interest earned from the STAR Ohio account appropriated towards the street fund.
- Jim Reed, 211 Maple Drive and owners of property on E. Lynn Street, asked council to fix the issue of flooding that is happening in the low area around E. Lynn Street and E. Elm Street. Administrator Mitchell acknowledged the need for a strategic plan to repair storm sewers in that area as well as others areas in the village. Administrator Mitchell has included this project in the proposed 2024 permanent appropriations.

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to adjourn at 7:48 PM. Motion passed.

Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer

Sam Ronicker, Mayor

Date