

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held August 07, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on August 07, 2023 at 7:30 pm in the Village of Fort Recovery Council Chambers to conduct regular business.

**Roll call** was conducted with the following Council members present: Erik Fiely, Cliff Wendel, Luke Knapke, Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson, and Al Post.

**Also Present:** Randy Diller, Roberta Staugler, Erin Abels, Bailey Cline, Neal Spencer, Leslie Gartrel and Jared Laux.

The mayor led with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

**Reports to Council:** VA Report, July Income Tax & Finance & June/July Police reports.

**Minutes:** Wendel made a motion to approve July 17, 2023 minutes. Knapke seconded the motion. Vote all yes.

**Mayor:** I have received complaints on a resident on Butler Street; the chief will go talk to them soon about their yard.

**Chief:** June/July Call Record stats. We have taken care of a couple high weed yards this past week along with some vehicles too. Haiden is coming along in his training.

**RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:**

**RES 2023-17** A Resolution to Amend Appropriations. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes. Post made the motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Pearson. Vote all yes.

Diller: Aidan passed first licensing test last month and his 6-month probationary was up this week. He has been running the water plant and taking his weekends. He is learning a lot and likes to stay busy. It has made a difference having three guys there five days a week. Our past standard has been a .75¢ hour raise which would be starting today with passing of the ordinance.

**ORD 2023-06** Amend Wage Ordinance. Pearson made a motion to suspend the rules which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Post made the motion to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Fiely. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

**Abels:** I am working on the annexation and hope to finish in next few weeks. **Diller:** We got the signed petition from the township trustees; we need Mayor and Bert signatures then we will work on a packet to go to commissioners. When done we will submit to the commissioners, they will have a hearing, approve by resolution then wait. It will take 60 plus days to get through the process.

**Diller: Lagoons:** The DO is bouncing around, but no odors. Melvin is trying some different feed rates with no increase in odor. Melvin is not in hurry to do sonar test. Kaup: One day I drove back and it stunk pretty good next day it didn't. Diller: There is a smell if around but it doesn't permeate. Pearson: Weren't we supposed to get a sonar? Diller: We are waiting on Melvin. I think he knows we are going to have to amend our agreement, as it is a different consistency, less thick, obviously something has worked but not sure it has created a reduction in the sludge blanket. We will keep working with him.

**Water Plant Study:** The study is in drop box, lots of interesting ideas. We will meet with Marvin. If you read through it talks about chemistry. Both options he proposes, IO (ION Exchange) and RO (Reverse Osmosis). Our operating expense would drop by \$200,000 a year in chemical and operating. The IO process would have a brine discharge waste, which he suggests to put in sanitary sewer. I am not sure that is the right thing and we have to understand it first. The study is leaning to RO and while high in TDS it is not as high as IO. If numbers are correct to change over, add building to the back end and eliminate the aerator,

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clarifier, stabilization, filters would not be in service, no lime caustic or CO2, he thinks we can save \$200,000 a year. RO cost savings would fund the construction even if no change in rate. They would allow us to operate the plant in a different manner. Now we have to monitor the chemicals. Ryan wants to sit down with Marvin to get a thorough explanation and we will set up trips to Minster (RO) and Coldwater (IO) to see what they think is best or could do differently. The next step then would be to have Marvin work with all of us. Obviously, we need to do something with possible \$200,000 in chemical and energy savings and still use same building, clear well, high service pumps with a much more efficient plant. He did a good job of building in maintenance costs; every five years there is a need to change the membrane setting aside \$8,500 each year in operating to change it. Ryan and I agree on something things, we will sit down to discuss. Marvin did a very good job, very thorough.

**Water Tower:** I had a short discussion the person was to call back today; I will figure out how I need to approach things going forward. It is signed, ready to go.

**Traffic Light:** We did get preliminary plans and are waiting on ODOT. Will give them until Thursday morning at 10am as we are meeting with Choice One to get a full report on how lights will be operating. We want to know exactly what we are getting.

**Gwendolyn/Wiggs Reconstruction:** Everything is signed and ready to go, it could begin in February.

**Systemic Funding ODOT Trails:** We are working with a couple property owners on some ideas and Choice One is working on the Stage 1 report for ODOT.

**School Transportation:** We did receive final approval. We are now eligible to apply for infrastructure and program grants. Some of the first things we will look at include an improved crossing on 49/Elm. This could be a project we could apply for at 100%. We will meet and talk through the options.

**OPWC Funds:** Jenn and I have talked through the projects; we have until the end of September to submit the application. We will need legislation to sign authorizing the grant to OPWC.

**Legislative:** Local Gov Funds. Local Gov not a huge part of our budget. It used to be 3.68% recently it was raised from 1.66% to 1.7% which shows it has been cut more than half in the last 16 years. They raise it then cut taxes taking it off of lower number. State operating budget passed some things that affect us; money for Law Enforcement. This includes Marcs radios. Laux: I think we get \$5 per radio per month Diller: It partially covers fees for us. Couple things with taxation. There is now a one-time only penalty of \$25 for non-filing and we must waive the first offense fee and charge thereafter a max of \$25, we cannot raise fee. Can't send a notice to someone that completed an extension to Federal Gov as the accountant can send the notice and we could be on hook to pay accountant fee. With the extension they now have seven months to file with local gov. We can now do our public notices on state web site and/or social media & village website. Ordinance will no longer need to be posted around town, we can just put it on website and social media.

**Pool:** The season is starting to wind down with the final day on August 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have one more incentive day for school on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Pretty happy with the job Kari has done.

**Park:** Paving is lined up, early October at the latest.

**Important Events:** Mayor and Randy will attend the CIC meeting Thursday. WOW event is Aug 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>. One thing to mention the first meeting in September falls on Labor Day, if we have no time lines may cancel the first meeting in September.

**Poll Council:** Pearson: They trimmed trees at Fort Site, do we have thoughts of cutting it down? Diller: We have talked about it and trimming the ash trees that survived. We didn't want to stress the ash trees any more. They go through about every 5-6 year and trim the

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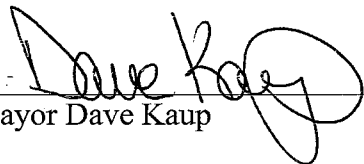
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trees out of the lines like that. We will monitor but the trees grow back each time. Knapke: When Jared is patrolling, we need to figure out something down on Wayne St, trucks are going through and not hitting brakes. We are going to have someone get hit. Schmitz: I haven't seen any semis. Laux: Mostly they are coming from Wenning's. Knapke: Most are not stopping. Laux: They go to court and fight to get a reduced ticket and get no ramifications. Kaup: How do they reduce? Laux: It is pretty amazing. When lawyers agree they get no points.

**Diller:** The family is in the process of selling Elmer Wendel's home. The structure encroaches on the right of way. As in past we have prepared an encroachment easement, if they move or rebuild, they can't encroach again. We are not in a position to make them move it. Banks now do a mortgage survey which shows the house 8.4' on the right of way. We will need an encroachment easement to be filed.

**Fiely made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Knapke. Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.**

  
Mayor Dave Kaup

  
Roberta Staugler