

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held February 06, 20 23

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on February 06, 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 and Scott Pearson and Al Post.

**Also Present:** Randy Diller, Roberta Staugler, Erin Abels, Bailey Cline, Leslie Gartrel, Aidan O'Dell and Neal Spencer.

The mayor led with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

**Reports to Council:** VA Report, January Income Tax & Finance Reports.

**Minutes:** Wendel made a motion to approve January 16, 2023 minutes. with the attendance correction, Knapke seconded the motion. Vote all yes.

**Kaup:** Aidan O'Dell, introduced himself to council as the new utility department trainee. He is excited to offer more to the team and learn more about the plant. Kaup: A couple of people were happy with the street department snow cleanup. All is fine with Southwest Mercer squad district.

**Diller:** If you noticed since we switched tax software programs this month there are some written numbers on the report, it was not pulling in numbers correctly. We will try to look at a different spreadsheet for future reports.

**Chief:** I would like to request Executive Session for employment purposes.

**RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES RES 2023-03 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2023 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 Fiely. Vote all yes.

Staugler presented the January bank reconciliation for approval.

**Diller: Utility: Lagoons:** The DO numbers are still up, we will keep monitoring and adding product. Our loading numbers are down and effluent is as good as we have had in years. We are trying to maintain the DO through winter. Kaup: When is the next sludge test? Diller: We don't know, we won't know until the weather breaks.

**EPA:** No news on the status of the NPDES permit, waiting on OEPA response to our request to extend the schedule to meet the new requirements.

**Water Plant:** PMG started their analysis today, so they have started the process. They will be coming back with what they think we can and should do.

**SCADA:** We purchased a smaller version until we know what is going to happen with the plant. It will give us enough information on the phone with idea being to cut back on trips to the plant. They won't need to make a trip back there if they can monitor from their phone.

**WASTEWATER STUDY:** Next step is to conduct a rate study with past history and include how the Cooper discharge has impacted our numbers. If we do go forward with a mechanical operation, what are the potential numbers, what can we fund outside and inside and how can we break that up to justify the numbers. He thinks it will take a couple of months to get reports back to us. We hope to not fall behind our schedule to figure out EPA requirements. The bottom line is it is hard to anticipate that it will take care of the ammonia.

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**Asset Management:** We are adding the asset management software that will work with our GIS mapping. It will track work orders and inventory and maintenance record keeping which is what EPA wants to see.

**Street:** The Commissioners approved Fort Recovery for a \$300,000 grant from County ARPA funds for installation of a traffic signal at Butler & Elm Streets. Choice One has provided a proposal for engineering, which is the next step and will cost us \$28,650. We would like to get started asap. The first step is to work through ODOT to get their blessing. I would like to get the ok for hiring Choice One.

**Wendel made the motion to approve Choice One to complete the engineering for the stop light which was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.**

**Diller:** If ODOT gives us approval we will have a new stop light. Post: Do we have the money available? Diller: Yes, the money is there if council approves the signing of the subgrant agreement so we can send it to the Commissioners. A copy of the subgrant agreement is in drop box.

**Knapke made the motion to authorize Randy to sign the Commissioners subgrant agreement for the \$300,000 funding for a new stop light. Wendel seconded the motion. Vote all yes.**

**Diller:** We certainly want to thank the County Commissioners for this, we have been trying to get at stop light for long time.

**Butler Street:** Systemic Funding request has been submitted. It's in the process so it won't take long. It is a 90/10 grant; they will pay 90% of cost. We will go through the necessary steps. This will begin at George Street and go west taking down the hill and include a sidewalk to Ambassador Drive. Also included are improved safety crossings at the intersections of Center/Elm and First/Butler streets.

**Street Project:** Choice One updated the estimates for two smaller street projects. They came back at \$299,000 and \$450,000 for 2 blocks of S Main St and a block each of Wiggs/Gwendolyn Streets. Since things have changed drastically with the Butler St project and we are up for the Small Gov Grants this year, we can ask for up to \$500,000. Maybe we can put it together as one project and bid it out next summer. If we get those two sections done, that side of town is pretty well finished. Council was in agreement to have Randy begin working on this project.

**Systemic Grant:** This grant is for the trails by school. We held the ODOT scope meeting; Choice One can now finish up their engineering proposal for ODOT approval. Then we will move forward with design and right-of-way plans.

**School Transportation Route:** A public meeting was held last Wednesday night. We will be finalizing and should receive the final copy for one last review. It will then be submitted to ODOT for final approval. The deadline for new applications is March 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. We probably won't apply this year, probably next year. We will be ready for whatever the biggest project we have is.

**RR Exemption:** Randy will attend a 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting, because they didn't advertise the first one properly.

**EV Charging Station:** We did not get approved by AES. They have talked about reopening funding again. Randy is also looking at other sources of funding.

**Brick Street Market:** Psi Iota Xi Sorority would like to hold a Brick Street Market on Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> closing the street from 9am – 3pm. They will talk to the banks about the drive-thru traffic during the event which is 10am-2pm. We need approval from council to do so.

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Pearson made a motion to close the brick street on April 29, 2023 from 9am to 3pm. This was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes.

**State Legislation:** They are again looking at things that didn't make it to committees last year. It could be interesting. Representatives are split; things are being approved by a smaller group of republicans with all the democrats. We will keep following.

**High School Baseball Diamond:** We completed the purchase on the old HS Baseball field.

**Sawyer Overman Ninja Park:** We also got word and approval to acquire one acre from Buzz and Pat Hull which they donated for that use. Choice One was out to do survey work last week. We will finalize and get approval. We certainly appreciate the Hulls being good community members, they have been very good to work with and we really appreciate it.

**Important Dates:** The Chamber Banquet will be held March 12<sup>th</sup>. The mayor will be nominating a group for the Community Service Award.

**Poll Council:** Nothing to report

**President:** Do I have a motion to enter executive session to discuss hiring in accordance with §121.22 (G)(1)?

Fiely made a motion to enter into Executive Session which was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes by roll call vote.


Fiely made a motion to exit Executive Session which was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.

Fiely made a motion to authorize the mayor and police chief to make an offer to a police cadet with a three-year training reimbursement payment, this was seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes.

**Diller:** We purchased two trucks for about \$40,500 total. We had originally budgeted \$35,000 for one truck. Both are clean with low miles from a company in St Marys. We test drove and purchased one, then they had another one available. With Aidan starting we will have another truck to drive as we were short a lot with Harry having to sometimes drive the dump truck.

Council reviewed invoices for check #31538 to #31595 including then and now certificates, inter-departmental transfers, expense adjustments and memo expense 230011 – 230023. Fiely made a motion to approve as presented, this was seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes.

Fiely made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wendel. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

  
Mayor Dave Kaup

  
Roberta Staugler