

**HIRAM VILLAGE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Unofficial**

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234
March 11, 2025

- I. Call to Order by Mayor Anne Haynam at 7:00 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - A. Roll Call: Ed Frato-Sweeney, David Smith, Christopher Perme, Justin Bisutti Juan Fernandez
 - Absent: Chris Szell, Council President and Megan Fogel, Fiscal Officer
 - Others Present: Mayor Anne Haynam, Solicitor Charles Gasior, Village Administrator Steven Schuller, Fire Chief Bill Byers
 - Citizens Present: Diane Hladky, Jillian Gentle, and Alec Gentle
- III. Approval of February 11, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes passed by general consensus.
 - Mr. Frato- Sweeney made a motion to approve the March 11, 2025, Amended Agenda. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to approve March 11, 2025, Amended Agenda. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- IV. Guest and Public Comment
 - A. Ms. Gentle discussed the sewage back up that occurred in February in their home. She was wanting to know what the Village's preventative measures are, how to obtain the service records, and what maintenance is done.
- V. Department Heads Report
 - A. Mayor's Report: *See attached report.*
 - Mayor Haynam informed Council that Ms. Bennett will be the Council Representative for the Recreation and Parks Board.
 - Mayor Haynam requested Council to consider Ms. Hladky as a new member of the Recreation and Parks Board. Mr. Perme made a motion to accept Ms. Hladky as a new member of the Recreation and Parks Board. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Mayor Haynam discussed Police Chief Gregory's upcoming retirement in three months.
 - B. Village Administrator's Report: *See attached report.*
 - Mr. Schuller discussed the maintenance on equipment that has been started by the Service Department.
 - C. Safety Service's Report
 - Fire/EMS Report: Chief Byers stated that this month they have been steady with mutual aid fires.
 - Police Report: Chief Gregory discussed the revenue that has come in since the T2 System has been in place. Chief Gregory discussed the auxiliary police that will be being used by the department. Discussed disposal of old documents.

D. Financial Report:

- Fiscal Officer was absent.
 - Discussion was had regarding the Hinckle Report and how previous processes do not work efficiently.
1. Interest Distribution- Discussion on which accounts that the interest the Village incurs through the bank will be applied to.
 2. Health Insurance- Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield- After Mr. Schuller spoke with OHB they agreed to a lower increase in rates than the proposed 6.9%. Mr. Perme made a motion to approve the renewal of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield at a 3.04% increase. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

VI. Hiram Township Report

No Township report tonight.

VII. Legislation

A. Ordinances

- 2025-02: An Ordinance Amending Section 123.01- Posting of Ordinances. No discussion. 2nd Reading.
- 2025-03: An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 144 and its Subparts of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Hiram Regarding the Economic Development Committee. 1st Reading.
 - Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to suspend the rules and declaring an emergency. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-03. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- 2025-04: An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 1970-482, 1993-31, and Hiram Codified 139.02 Concerning Auxiliary Police Officers in the Village of Hiram and Declaring an Emergency. No discussion. 1st Reading.
- 2025-05: An Ordinance Amending Codified 351.03 Prohibited Standing or Parking Places and Declaring an Emergency. 1st Reading.
 - Mr. Smith made a motion to suspend the rules and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Fernandez. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-05. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- 2025-06: An Ordinance Amending the Hiram College Zoning Map by Repealing the Existing Map and Authorizing and Approving a New Map. No discussion. 1st Reading.
- 2025-07: An Ordinance Amending the Village of Hiram's Employee Handbook. 1st Reading.
- 2025-08- An Ordinance Establishing Chapter 1147 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Hiram Entitled "Maintenance Code." No discussion. 1st Reading.

B. Resolutions:

- 2025-03: A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into a NatureWorks Local Assistance Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Taking All Action Necessary to Accept the Grant Award in the Amount of \$18,927.00; and Declaring an Emergency. 1st Reading.

Mr. Fernandez made a motion to suspend the rules and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-03. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

- 2025-04: A Resolution Authorizing the Application for and Subsequent Acceptance of Grant Funds by the Village of Hiram and Ratifying Past Actions Which are Now Authorized by this Resolution and Declaring an Emergency. 1st Reading.

Mr. Smith made a motion to suspend the rules and declaring an emergency. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-04. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

- 2025-05: A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into an Agreement for a Bulk Water-Fill Station and Declaring an Emergency. 1st Reading.

Mr. Fernandez made a motion to suspend the rules and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-05. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 4-1.

VIII. New Business

- A. Maintenance Code- No discussion

IX. Old Business

- A. Judy Macek- Discussion on her incurred RITA Fee's

Mr. Perme made a motion to authorize RITA to remove late fees from Ms. Macek's RITA account as of March 11, 2025. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

- B. Discussion on the Village's contract with RAVE. It was determined that the new contract, signed in 2022, is valid.

Mr. Fernandez made a motion to authorize the Village Administrator to amend the RAVE contract for the purpose of negotiating a termination. Mr. Frato-Sweeney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

- C. Discussion on the light plant and the bid received from Hiram College.

- X. Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to convene the Executive Session for the purpose of personnel issues per ORC 121.22 at 8:54 pm. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Perme made a motion to reconvene in Regular Session at 10:10 pm. Mr. Fernandez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Frato-Sweeney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 pm. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:11 pm.

ATTEST:

Fiscal Officer, Megan Fogel

Mayor Anne Haynam