

Hiram Village Council Special Meeting

Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234

August 30, 2022

The following Members of Council were present: Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. Hemphill, Mr. McCreight, Mr. Smith, Mr. Spencer and Mr. Szell. The following were also present: Mayor Lou Bertrand, Village Solicitor Tom Reitz, Fiscal Officer Susan Skrovan, Police Chief Brian Gregory, Fire Chief Bill Byers and Village Administrator James McGee.

The following persons were present: Denny Taylor and several others with the Hiram Historical Society, Lucia Rose; niece of Chris Szell.

Mayor Bertrand called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Mayor asked that all cell phones be silenced.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve the proposed agenda and to strike items #1 & #2 since this is a continuation of our regular Council meeting. A motion to approve the agenda as amended removing items #1 and #2 was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. McCreight. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES

2022-10: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS IN SEVERAL FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd READING. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve on 2nd reading as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2022-11: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PERMANENT REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE HIRAM ENERGY SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (ESID) FUND 9904 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve as an emergency was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Szell. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

2022-24: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE PORTAGE COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION'S ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF APPORTIONING AND DISTRIBUTING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd READING. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve on 2nd reading as an emergency was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Szell. Chris Szell asked Susan whether these percentages stayed the same. Susan said she had not heard anything from the County at this time; however, the County did not plan to change their apportionment of 39.8%. This has to be certified to the County so when they receive it, if that is an issue, they will let us know at that time. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2022-25: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH WORKMAN INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, INC. FOR THE WATER TOWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM, PORTAGE COUNTY, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd READING. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve on 2nd reading as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. Paul Spencer asked about all of the blanks on the exhibit contract?

Solicitor Tom Reitz explained that the exhibit is a draft of the contract; they are all affidavits that the contractor will be responsible to complete in order to have the project awarded to him. This is the portion of the contract that incorporates the bid package. Chris Szell asked if there was a completion date of the project. Solicitor Reitz said the completion date has not yet been established because it is dependent on the manufacturer of the pieces. Chris Szell said he just found on cf:8, a completion date listed as September 30, 2023. James McGee, Village Administrator, said that date came through the Ohio Public Works Commission grant. If we cannot meet that date, we have to appeal to OPWC and request an extension. Solicitor Reitz said OPWC has extended this date all through the pandemic. The Mayor added that this project started almost 2 ½ years ago! Paul Spencer called for the question. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2022-26: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE ENGINEERING FIRM CT CONSULTANTS, FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE WATER TOWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING ON EMERGENCY. 2nd READING. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Spencer. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve on 2nd reading as an emergency was made by Mr. Hemphill and seconded by Mr. Szell. Dave Smith questioned paying our engineers for the (6) EPA issues, and “additional services” since we have them on retainer and engineering was already figured into the original project. James said Tim Lannon can come in to explain these additional costs to Council if they want him to do so. Paul felt we should ask Tim to come in and explain. Solicitor Tom Reitz explained that the rebidding was because all the prices went up. There is a section in the Ohio Revised Code that says the engineers must prepare an estimate of the work to be performed. The estimate was prepared and a bid to be accepted can be no more than 10% of the engineer’s estimate. All the prices went up between the time the estimate was prepared and the bids were received so a rebidding had to take place and the estimate had to be re-done. Solicitor Reitz could not speak to the six submittals by CT to the EPA. James will try and get Tim Lannon with CT Consultants to come to either a Council or Finance & Safety meeting. Paul Spencer called for the question. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

2022-27: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF K-9 OFFICER GUAPO FROM THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AND AUTHORIZING COUNCIL TO EXECUTE A K-9 OFFICER ADOPTION AGREEMENT WITH DEVIN BROWN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd READING. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. A motion to approve on 2nd reading as an emergency was made by Mr. Szell and seconded by Mr. Hemphill. Chris Szell had asked the Police Chief about the savings his department would see. Chief Gregory said they would see a savings of about \$7-9,000 annually which will allow the Chief to provide raises to those officers that are still here to keep them here. Dave Smith wanted to say, kudos to Guapo and to those who supported the K-9 program! Chief Gregory spoke about waiting to dismantle the K-9 vehicle until year end just in case Officer Devin Brown finds another department that wants a K-9 unit. There will be a charge for the K-9 vehicle. Chris McCreight asked what happens if Officer Brown does not follow the requirements of the agreement. Chief Gregory explained how the process will work. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor.

GUEST AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Denny Taylor representing the Hiram Historical Society explained the costs associated with the water issues at the historical house. An email was sent to all of Council this afternoon. The quote was \$4,600 to tie into the storm sewer. This would be the best and simplest solution. The contractor will work closely with James, our Village Administrator.

Denny asked whether the Village of Hiram recognizes that the Century House is owned by the Hiram Historical Society? Solicitor Tom Reitz said at the last Council meeting, he was asked by Council to figure out how that could be memorialized. Tom has yet to figure that out. If you want an absolute; you would need to establish a condominium. It seems to be an exorbitated amount and a lot of work with little improvement over what you have now. Right now, you have a lease with a house owned by the Historical Society on property belonging to the Village. The lease recognizes all of this. Dave Smith spoke about the good relationship between the two groups. Dave does understand the science of paving and causing water runoff issues and with improvements, they could cause problems. He understands their concerns. Dave felt it is a good thing for the Village and thanked the Historical Society for their work!

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

None

A motion to adjourn the special meeting was made by Mr. Hemphill and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 6-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

These special minutes are pending approval by Council.



Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:



Fiscal Officer Susan J. Skrovan