

Village of Creston

Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 1, 2023 @ 7:30pm.

@ The Municipal Building

Mayor John Hall Jr. called the Regular Council meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Members present: Mayor John Hall Jr., Cm. Jason Balyer, Cm. Nate Berry, Cm. Aaron Howell, Cm. Aaron Huth, Cp. Brenda Norris, Cm. Tom Phillips, Chief Bryon Meshew, Solicitor Kris Immel and Fiscal Officer Jennifer Webb taking the meeting minutes

Others present: Becky Croft, Thomas Delong, Jeff Hostetler, Linda Sachara, Patty Murphy and Judge William Rickett

Pledge of Allegiance

There were no amendments to the agenda

Tom Phillips made a motion to approve the April 3, 2023 minutes as written, 2nd Jason Balyer, approved six (6) yeas.

Mayor's Report: no comment

Cm. Tom Phillips: no comment

Cm. Jason Balyer: no comment

Cm. Nate Berry:

1. There are street lights out and he would like to know who replaces the light bulbs. Jason Flory says he calls them in, they generally replace them in a few days and to let him know if there are any still out.
2. There are pot holes in the gravel driveway at the park that he would like to see filled. Jason says they filled them a few weeks ago. A discussion is had on filling/paving the road and Jason will get a price on different materials to fill or pave.

Cm. Aaron Howell:

1. After further research, Aaron confirm that the Village can use ARPA funds for the street lights. Finance will continue to discuss the use of the funds. He asks Chief Meshew about the Homeland Grant and Chief Meshew explains that the grant cannot be used for street lights. He is working with Barb at the county for the cameras.
2. The Village insurance is due to renew in July. If need be, an insurance rep can come to the meeting and the policy can be retroactive to the July renewal date.
3. It was found that the speed limit on Cleveland Road (Route 3) cannot be reduced to 35 mph per ODOT and sidewalks are not permitted.
4. Aaron is also looking into having food trucks at the Fire Station for the Village garage sale.

Cm. Aaron Huth: no comment

Cp. Brenda Norris:

1. The Events Committee met and they are looking into several ideas for a community event such as a water day or movie night. Tom asks about the funds left over from the car show and Jennifer informs him that there is \$786.48 left over. A discussion was had about asking for donations but the committee felt that the village should give back to the tax payers instead of asking them to fund the events. Brenda would like council to approve a supplemental appropriation for \$8,000.00 for the community events.

Jason Balyer made a motion to approve a supplemental appropriation for \$8,000.00 for the community events, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas.

Fiscal Officer Jennifer Webb:

1. Jennifer presented warrants and vouchers totaling \$65,778.19 for Council's approval.
2. Jennifer presented March and April's bank reconciliation showing no adjustments or differences.

Tom Phillips made a motion to approve warrant and vouchers totaling \$65,778.19, 2nd Nate Berry, approved six (6) yeas.

Jason Balyer made a motion to approve the March and April's bank reconciliation with no discrepancies or adjustments, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas.

Streets Supt. Jason Flory:

1. April 2023 Maintenance Report
 - Open and closed two (2) graves
 - Started mowing grass
 - Repaired water pump and timing chain/serviced police cars/changed steering rack
 - Clean out ditch on Jackson Road/repaired water line

- Installed new outside light/installed drain and replaced locks on Murray Hall
- Repaired electric service at Pavilion #1 (waiting on parts for permanent fix)

Chief Bryon Meshew:

1. Calls were up and they are still looking for a full-time Officer.

Judge Rickett: Judge William Rickett introduced himself to Council. He was formally the Magistrate for Wayne County and retired from the bench in 2011. He does Mayor's Court for several other villages and opens the floor for any questions. A productive discussion on the process of Mayor's Court and the Village's needs was held.

Legislation:

1. ORD 2023-09 An ordinance repealing Ordinance 2023-08 and establishing a supplemental appropriation in the Permissive Sales Tax Fund (2111) of \$6,000.00 and declaring an emergency. Jason Balyer moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas. Tom Phillips moved to pass the ordinance as an emergency, 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas.
2. ORD 2023-11 An ordinance adopting the Model Ohio Municipal Code and declaring an emergency. Brenda Norris moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Tom Phillips, approved six (6) yeas. Tom Phillips moved to pass the ordinance as an emergency, 2nd Jason Balyer, approved six (6) yeas.
3. ORD 2023-12 An ordinance authorizing the appointment of a Mayor's Court Magistrate and declaring an emergency. Jason Balyer moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Brenda Norris, approved five (5) yeas. Aaron Howell voted nay. Aaron Huth moved to pass the ordinance as an emergency, 2nd Jason Balyer, approved five (5) yeas. Aaron Howell voted nay.

Old/New Business: Jeff Hostetler presents council with a list of six (6) projects that he would like to be taken in consideration with the ARPA funds:

1. Repair the sewer line on North Crestview \$7,500.00
2. VFD for the water treatment plant \$12,000.00 (iron and mag removal)
3. Repair the water line under the Wheeling and Lake Erie Rail Road \$15,000 - \$30,000.00
4. Garden Street Water line \$35,000.00
5. Jackson Road water line extension \$70,000.00
6. Storm Sewer replacement behind Murray's Funeral Home \$20,000.00

A discussion was had on the projects and Brenda would like to see the ARPA funds distributed evenly with in the departments. It was decided that projects one (1), two (2) and six (6) would be funded with ARPA monies.

Jason Balyer made a motion to approve projects one (1), two (2) and six (6) for a total of \$39,500.00 with the use of the ARPA monies, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas.

Mayor John Hall Jr asks Jennifer to introduce Sandy Kuzmiak to council for Karen Fosters position and the Fiscal Officer Assistant position that was previously approved by the Finance Committee. Jennifer explains that she has worked with Sandy for over three (3) years and that she is confident in her work ethics, job knowledge and capabilities. Sandy addressed council and a discussion is had about her previous work experience. Brenda asks for clarification on Sandy's position and it is confirmed that Sandy will be there to help with the taxes, administrative tasks and that Marti will still be cross trained to assist the Fiscal Officer.

Aaron Howell made a motion to approve the hiring of Sandy Kuzmiak at \$18.00 an hour, 2nd Nate Berry, approved 6 yeas.

Aaron Howell would like to know what is the delay with Marti not getting her increase. He is informed that she cannot get her raise due to the current ordinance needing to be revised. Kris asks if council wants to amend the current pay rate (ORD 23-07) or if they would like to go to a pay scale. A discussion was had and Finance will look into establishing a pay range. Jennifer offers to do a projection for the next 3 years to help with the range.

Jason Balyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 P.M., 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Webb, Fiscal Officer