

Village of Creston

Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 7, 2023 @ 7:30 P.M.
at The Municipal Building

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

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor John Hall Jr., Council Members: Jason Balyer, Nate Berry, Aaron Howell, Aaron Huth, Brenda Norris, Tom Phillips, Police Chief Bryon Meshew, Solicitor David Randolph, Superintendent Jason Flory and Fiscal Officer Jennifer Webb taking the meeting minutes

Others present: Bonnie Hall, Marsha Moniger, Beck Croft, Kim Constantino

Pledge of Allegiance

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Tom Phillips made a motion to approve the June 5, 2023 regular minutes as written, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Hall Jr. reminded everyone to vote on election day, that school is starting on August 21st and just to be more cautious of the kids. The Ox Roast is this weekend, although it is a Creston event, it is not held by the Village

Tom Phillips: no comment

Jason Balyer: no comment

Nate Berry: Nate was looking into the rough railroad tracks. Mayor Hall Jr. informs Nate that he and Jennifer have already reached out to them several times. Nate has a local contact person and he will forward his information to Jennifer and John.

Aaron Howell: The Finance Committee reviewed the 2024 budget and recommend that Council pass it with no changes. The Police Department was awarded the Responder Grant and Aaron asks Council about using Gary Harris again for looking for grants. Nate found a few grants through ODNR but the Village missed the deadlines. Jennifer says she found a Bulletproof Vest Grant and sent it to the Chief. She will be happy to continue to look. It was agreed that the Village officials

will attempt to secure grants before seeking outside help. The next Finance meeting will be August 21, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Aaron Huth: The Village is getting ready to do some tree work around time.

Brenda Norris: Brenda was in contact with Snyder Recreation who did the playground at Norwayne who works with municipalities on grants and they will keep her informed of any upcoming grants. The Events Committee meets tomorrow at 5:15 PM in the Municipal Building and they will be discussing a possible movie night in September. She asks Council to consider making more of the Village's social media, specifically the FaceBook page. She would like to promote local businesses (business spotlights), candid pictures of the employees, sharing local resources, etc. No one on council opposed and she will follow up with the solicitor to see what is allowed/permitted. Aaron Howell asks about setting the date and time for Trick or Treating. A discussion was had and Jason Bayler made a motion to set the date as October 31st from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM, with the costume judging at 7:30 PM, 2nd Aaron Howell, approved six (6) yeas.

Fiscal Officer Jennifer Webb: Jennifer presents Council with the invoices/vouchers for June and July, the bank reconciliation for June and July and the 2024 Budget.

Aaron Howell made a motion to approve June's invoice and vouchers totaling \$155,673.57, 2nd Brenda Norris, approved six (6) yeas.

Aaron Howell made a motion to approve July's invoice and vouchers totaling \$182,722.56, 2nd Tom Phillips, approved six (6) yeas

Aaron Howell made a motion to approve June's and July's bank reconciliation with no discrepancies or adjustments, 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas.

Aaron Howell made a motion to adopt the 2024 budget with no changes, 2nd Tom Phillips, approved six (6) yeas.

Jason Flory: Jason presented council with the Maintenance report for June and July. There were 6 graves that were opened, closed, graded and seeded, Jackson waterline is complete, 200 feet of culvert was replaced on Stebbins Drive, mowed village properties, repaired/replaced street signs, fixed flush valve in women's restroom at Murray Hall, finishing up McIlvaine storm drain, completed sanitary sewer on North Crestview, sent out zoning letters and started replacing concrete on Carol Drive. The Village was awarded \$410,657.00 grant from Ohio Department of Development for the Factory Street project.

Chief Bryon Meshew: The Chief reported that they are down on staffing. The annual backpack give-a-way went very well. They handed out over 70 backpacks during the event and several families picked up after the event, totaling 101 kids. The Village received the Retention Grant and he will get with Jennifer to go over the guidelines and process.

Legislation:

1. ORD 2013-15 An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) to administer and collect the income tax – 2nd reading.
2. ORD 2023-17 An ordinance establishing a supplemental appropriation in the General Fund (1000) of \$8,000.00 for tax refunds, and declaring an emergency. Aaron Howell moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Brenda Norris, approved six (6) yeas. Aaron Howell moved to pass the ordinance as an emergency, 2nd Jason Bayler, approved six (6) yeas.
3. ORD 2023-18 An ordinance establishing a supplemental appropriation in the Grant Construction Fund (4205) of \$910,656.99 for payment of the Factory Street project, and declaring an emergency. Aaron Howell moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas. Aaron Howell moved to pass the ordinance as an emergency, 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas.
4. RES 2301-01 A resolution accepting the grant money (\$410,657.00) from The Ohio Department of Development for the Water Wastewater Improvement project on Factory street and declaring an emergency. Aaron Howell moved to suspend the rule, 2nd Brenda Norris, approved six (6) yeas. Aaron Howell moved to pass the resolution as an emergency, 2nd Jason Bayler, approved six (6) yeas.

Old/New Business: A discussion was had about 'Meet the Candidates Night' and the tentative date was October 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Brenda will follow up once it has been confirmed. Robert Foster was on the agenda for new hire approval but has expressed that he is no longer interested in the position with the Police Department.

The next council meeting will be Thursday, September 7th at 7:30 P.M. due to the holiday.

Aaron Howell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 P.M., 2nd Aaron Huth, approved six (6) yeas.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Webb, Fiscal Officer