

**Versailles Village Council Meeting
Held at Fire/EMS Facility**

October 23, 2024

Mayor Dammeyer called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call found the following Council Members present: Mr. Paulus, Mr. Griesdorn, Mr. Steinbrunner, Mrs. Dieringer, Ms. Shaffer, and Mr. Weaver. Also present were Village Administrator Francis, Fiscal Officer Ording, Village Attorney Tom Guillozet, and Police Chief Bolin.

The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation was led by Mayor Dammeyer.

Mayor Dammeyer requested that the agenda be amended by adding under new business, item 8. J. First reading of Resolution No. 24-54, a resolution authorizing the sale of certain vehicles and equipment not needed for any municipal purpose, item 8. K. Consideration of a motion to authorize the Village Administrator to enter into a contract for the purchase of land for municipal use and to close on said purchase, and item 8. L. Discussion regarding the purchase of a replacement street sweeper for the Street Department.

Ms. Shaffer made a motion to accept the consent agenda items which included approval of the following:

- Approval of Agenda as amended
- Approval of Minutes from the October 9, 2024 Regular Meeting
- Approval of List of Expenditures for October 23, 2024

Mrs. Dieringer seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas with Mr. Weaver abstaining from vote of minutes.

Scheduled for public discussion was the item to revisit the council meeting schedule for the 2nd meeting in November and the 2nd meeting in December due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday. At the October 9th meeting, council approved the dates of November 25th and December 23rd. Due to conflicts, Mr. Paulus made a motion to schedule the last Council meeting of November to Tuesday, November 26th, and the last Council meeting of December to Wednesday, December 18th, seconded by Ms. Shaffer. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

For the first item of old business, Village Attorney Guillozet read by title only, the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-40, an ordinance to rezone multiple properties within the Village of Versailles, Ohio.

He also read by title only, the second reading of Resolution No. 24-45, a resolution designating Public Depositories and awarding active public monies.

Moving on to new business, Village Attorney Guillozet read by title only, the first reading of Resolution No. 24-47, a resolution accepting the annexation of a 6.467 acre tract of land, more or less, owned by Preston Platfoot into the Village of Versailles, Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mr. Paulus made a motion to declare the resolution an emergency measure, suspend the rules, and have it read by title only for the second and third readings. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried. Resolution No. 24-47 was read by title only the second and third readings. Mr. Steinbrunner made a motion to accept Resolution No. 24-47, Mrs. Dieringer seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 24-48, a resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer of the Village of Versailles to enter into a contract with York Township for fire protection, was read for the first reading by title only.

Village Attorney Guillozet read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 24-49, a resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer of the Village of Versailles to enter into a contract with Richland Township for fire protection.

Read for the first reading by title only was Resolution No. 24-50, a resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer of the Village of Versailles to enter into a contract with Wayne Township for fire protection.

Village Attorney Guillozet read by title only, the first reading of Resolution No. 24-51, a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer of the Village of Versailles to enter into a contract with the Village of Russia, Shelby County, Ohio, for Emergency Medical Services.

He also read by title only, the first reading of Resolution No. 24-52, a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer of the Village of Versailles to enter into a contract with Wayne Township for Emergency Medical Services.

Village Attorney Guillozet then read by title only, the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-53, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 23-81, the 2024 Annual Appropriation Ordinance, and declaring an emergency. Fiscal Officer Ording said the appropriation amendments are the EMS Fund personal services and other expenses, the Sewer Fund personal services and the Electric Fund personal services. Mr. Paulus made a motion to declare the ordinance an emergency measure, suspend the rules, and have it read by title only for the second and third readings. Mrs. Dieringer seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 24-53 was read by title only the second and third readings. Ms. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-53, Mr. Steinbrunner seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

Next came a recommendation from the Personnel & Policies Committee to approve the appointment of Lexi Moorman to provide village custodial services along with her duties as Utilities Account Clerk and to create legislation to revise the Hourly Employees Compensation Table. Mr. Francis said the current custodian is providing cleaning for the Administrative Office, Municipal Services Facility (breakroom, kitchen, restrooms, offices), Water Plant (offices, kitchen, restrooms), Wastewater Plant (control room, restrooms), and Police Station/Village Hall (restrooms, hallway, entry). He told Council members that she is interested in cleaning these facilities in addition to her daily duties as Utilities Clerk. With the automation of the meter readings and residents utilizing auto bill pay, time would allow for her to pick up the additional duties. Having Mrs. Moorman provide these services in-house would reduce expenses for the Village. The plan is for Mrs. Moorman to begin janitorial services beginning January 5, 2025 which begins the first pay period of the year. Mrs. Dieringer made a motion to appoint Lexi Moorman to provide custodial services for the Village along with her Utilities Account Clerk duties and to create legislation to revise the Hourly Employees Compensation Table, seconded by Mr. Weaver. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

The Personnel & Policies Committee made a recommendation for council to consider a revised-on-call compensation plan for utility/street personnel. Village Administrator Francis informed council members that the current compensation for On-Call utility/street personnel was last updated in 2018. The current rate of compensation per day for On-Call is \$20/day. The proposal is to change the policy from a flat, across-the-board rate to one that is based on the employee's hourly rate of compensation. The advantage of paying the daily rate based on the employee's hourly rate of pay is that the compensation for each day does not become stagnant and require future revisions to the Personnel & Policies Manual. As pay rate changes over time, the On-Call compensation rate would change. This approach also rewards the more experienced employees with a higher rate of compensation based on their abilities and incentivizes the younger, less experienced workers to push harder to improve their skills to be compensated for. He said if approved, the new On-Call compensation pay would begin with the day of the first pay period in 2025. Mrs. Dieringer made a motion to approve the revised On-Call compensation plan to begin in 2025 and for legislation to be prepared to update the Personnel & Policies Manual, seconded by Mr. Steinbrunner. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 24-54, a resolution authorizing the sale of certain vehicles and equipment not needed for any municipal purpose was read by title only, the first reading.

Mr. Paulus made a motion to authorize the Village Administrator to enter into a contract for the purchase of land for municipal use and to close on said purchase, seconded by Mr. Griesdorn. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

For the last item of new business, Village Administrator Francis informed Council that in 2025, the Street Department is scheduled to purchase a new street sweeper to replace the 2007 model. The budgeted cost of the new equipment is \$232,000. A proposal was given to the Village to purchase a new Tymco street sweeper for \$219,766 from Best Equipment. The unit was being used as a demo and has approximately 50 hours of time used. Village Administrator Francis recommended to Council to purchase the demo model. He also reported that the 2007 sweeper would be sold. Mr. Griesdorn made a motion to authorize the Village Administrator to purchase the replacement street sweeper from Best Equipment for \$219,766, seconded by Mrs. Dieringer. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

Moving on to Administrative Reports, Mayor Dammeyer shared that he was recently traveling and stopped in the town of Versailles, Kentucky. He visited the government offices to introduce himself to their mayor. Unfortunately, they are currently without a mayor, but he was able to visit with a few of their office staff. He received a thank you card from the Mayor of Greenville expressing his gratitude for the City of Greenville Proclamation.

Village Administrator Francis distributed his Village Administrator's Report to members and reported on the following items: The new street asphalt for the Rosecomb Estates Phase II Residential Subdivision is set to go down Thursday and Friday of this week. As a reminder, the Hometown Christmas event will take place November 8th from 5PM-8PM. Food trucks will be available in the downtown area on Center St. between Wood St. and Main St. from 11AM-8PM. Jodie Bohman and Tracy Deloye from King's Command Foods have joined the Hometown Christmas Committee. In addition, Jodie is seeking assistance from VAPPA members for assistance with the event setup and tear down. Street Dept. personnel are winding down on concrete sidewalk repairs at Ward Park as part of this year's capital improvement plan. Street Dept. personnel this week are completing the final asphalt trench repairs around the Village before the asphalt plants close for the season. Grilliot Tree Trimming & Stump Grinding continues with the tree removals in the downtown streetscape area. Street personnel will likely be starting on stump removals starting in November after the Hometown Christmas event. The Street Dept's sewer push camera has failed somewhere in the power/communication cable between the camera head and the receiver unit. This camera setup is well over 15 years old, and we anticipate repairs (if they are even possible) to be well over \$1000. Personnel use this camera often to locate and inspect pipes throughout the Village and as a courtesy to homeowner's who may have a drain line issue from their home to the main. This camera replacement was going to be slated in the 2025 CIP. We have obtained pricing from Best Equipment for a new push camera unit at a cost of \$13,178.92 and will look to move forward with this purchase. There are remaining CIP funds in the 2024 budget to cover this expense. The 2024 Tree Lottery Trees were ordered last week from A. Brown's Nursery which was the low quote on this annual purchase. In addition to the tree lottery purchase, was the ordering of four red oak trees and one red maple tree. The red oaks will be planted in front of the Municipal Services Facility and the red maple will replace a Bradford Pear tree that was damaged and removed during a storm at the Admin Building. The total cost of the order is \$5,390.00 which includes installation and a one-year warranty on the trees. Electric personnel have started Christmas light installations in the downtown streetscape area on Oct. 21st. Half-Percent Income Tax Levy signs supporting and highlighting major improvement project areas and asphalt resurfacing over the past several years have been installed. I provided tours and public utility career information at the Water Plant on Oct. 14th and 15th for all Versailles eight graders as part of their annual career exploration with local businesses and the MVCTC. The 2024 Ford F-250 Parks truck has been received back from Dave Knapp Ford after repairs. This new truck has been at the dealership since early August with a wiring harness failure. The new 2024 Ram 2500 Electric Foreman truck has been manufactured and is awaiting shipment to Gaier's in Ft. Loramie. Once delivered, this truck will be transferred to Knapheide in New Carlisle for upfitting for a service body bed. We had a video conference meeting with AMP Transmission regarding potential routing of a new 69 kV transmission power line loop around the south side of the Village and interconnections with AES. We are providing them further

information with regards to our electric system mapping to assist with routing. New shrubs will be planted in the landscaping islands near the parking lot along Second St. by Groff Mowing & Lawncare. The existing shrubs and tree stumps will be removed by Street personnel. The existing shrubs are starting to die in some areas and have outlived their useful lives. Additionally, shrubs will be planted in an open landscaping area near the hotel parking lot entrance off of N. West St. just on the South side of the railroad crossing. Western Ohio Asphalt Sealing will be striping and crack sealing the Second St. and N. Center St. Village parking lots, in addition to the public parking lot on the North side of the Hotel over the next week or so. Classic Carriers delivered the new shade canopy for the Ward Park Swimming Pool. Classic Carriers provided the pick-up of this item as a donation towards the project. Street and Plant personnel will be working to install the new canopy over the next several weeks. I obtained an extension from the Darke County Parks for the project completion since the canopy took so long to be manufactured once we were notified of the grant award this past summer. The swim team shed will be relocated away from its current location to open that end of the pool for additional pool patron seating and staging area for swim meets. Water and wastewater plant operators continue with the planned fire hydrant flushing program around the Village. We have received a few questions about water quality in areas where flushing has occurred. When hydrants are flushed, we are moving a lot of water and this sometimes stirs things up which is why we advertise in advance of hydrant flushing. This past Thursday, a private contractor working in a subdivision on the southwest side of Versailles ripped through a 6" water main (didn't have a utility locate called in for the area) after hours which caused an enormous amount of water to be lost and stirred things up most noticeably on the west side of town. That same evening one of our lime feeders (lime softens our water) stopped feeding material for several hours in the middle of the night which resulted in our water hardness and pH to get out of normal range. Since the plant was running longer into the night replenishing water storage from the break, this compounded the issue greatly with harder, more alkaline water going out into the system. Although the water was still safe to drink and use, the more alkaline water can give off an odor and make the water taste different. Harder water would also be more noticeable when bathing as soap and shampoo won't lather correctly. This can also make dishwashers leave spots/cloudiness on glasses, especially if they are low or out of rinse aid. We received a few complaints Saturday morning on the West/Southwest side of the Village in regards to taste and odor. We have only received a handful of complaints (less than 10 total) and the issues have subsided in most areas. Water going out into the system was back to normal water standards Saturday morning. It takes sometimes 12-36 hours for the water plant to get back to normal after a situation like what unfolded Thursday night into Friday morning. In preliminary discussions with Choice One Engineering based on the recent traffic study, the traffic counts for the traffic signals in the Village are not warranted. This means that we will not be eligible for state or federal transportation funding programs for their replacements. Ward/Center St. and Wood/Center St. traffic counts were the lowest, with the two on Main St. only meeting two warrants out of a needed four to be eligible for funding. Choice One has advised that we have a meeting with ODOT District 7 to discuss things as the traffic signals on Main St. being the largest concern for improvements/replacements to alleviate traffic congestion and improve traffic movements in the downtown area. The N. East St. Reconstruction Project is in full swing. The existing roadway, curb, and sidewalks have been removed. New sanitary sewer main and service lines have been installed, storm sewer improvements are complete, and the new street base was installed this past Friday 10/18. Curb installations started this week and will be completed today or tomorrow. If all goes well, pavement may be placed on this project by the end of this month, first of November. Street Dept. personnel began leaf collection routes Oct. 14th. Volume is still light out along the streets, but will likely be kicking up with the recent frosts that we experienced last week. Village Park Restrooms were closed for the season on Monday, Oct. 14th as advertised. I will be attending the APPA RP3 Panel Grading meeting in Orlando, FL Nov. 5th and 6th.

Fiscal Officer Ording reported that State Auditor's office has completed their field work portion of the 2022-2023 audit. It will be a few weeks before it is completed.

Committee and Board reports were as follows:

- Finance & Audit – met prior to the meeting to review 2025 budgeted items

- Board of Zoning Appeals – meeting November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
- Cemetery Board – meeting November 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
- Park Board – meeting October 30, 2024 at the Fire/EMS facility at 6:30 p.m.
- Tree Commission – meeting November 1, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Guillozet reported that he will be absent from the next meeting. Attorney Matt Pierron will be in attendance.

With no further business to conduct, Ms. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Steinbrunner seconded the motion. Vote: all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor Dammeyer adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Todd M. Dammeyer, Mayor

Kathy Ording, Fiscal Officer