

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

**June 5, 2023**

The Village of Rushsylvania Council met in an Open, Publicly Advertised Meeting on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. Council Members present included Acting Mayor, Jason Miller, Sarah Eagy, Tim Rader, Trish Wilson, Jeremy Lowe, and Chris Crumley. Mayor, Phillip Wright, was absent. Solicitor, Zeb Wagner, Village Employee, Chris Coak, and Fiscal Officer, Kathy Stierhoff were also present. Visitors present: Troy Gibson, Kelly Gibson, Rachel Stahler, Scott Stanfield, Victoria Zupan, and Erica Caudill.

Mayor, Phillip Wright, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call were given.

**BUSINESS**

Acting Mayor, Jason Miller, asked for the approval of the minutes and financial report.

Chris Crumley made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1 meeting. Trish Wilson seconded the motion. All members approved. Motion carried. Tim Rader made a motion to approve the financial report. Jeremy Lowe seconded the motion. All members approved. Motion Carried.

The bills to be paid were then presented:

Phillip Wright	Mayor Salary	348.47
Zeb Wagner	Solicitor Salary	866.99
Kathy Stierhoff	Fiscal Officer Salary	664.81
Kathy Stierhoff	Mileage	81.88
Chris Coak	Village Employee Salary	2034.67
Tim Jones	Village Part Time Employee Salary	589.16
AES Ohio	Electricity Apr/May	525.86
All American Energy	Gas	359.31
Fox Supply	Flags	123.64
GandL	Internet Service	50.00
Kleem Inc	No Trespassing Signs	125.84
Lowes Home Centers Inc	Flowers Electrical Supplies	260.54
Miami Valley Lighting	Street Lights Usage	897.26
Ohio Dept of Taxation	State Tax Withholding Apr/May	135.27
OPERS	Employee Employer Withholding Apr/May	2379.48
PNC	Credit Card	
Rushsylvania One Stop	Fuel	295.86
Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Truck Registration	122.34
SV&E Refuse Service	Dumpster Apr/May Clean up	1362.50
Tractor Supply Credit Plan	Misc Supplies	89.95
Treasurer of State of Ohio	UAN Fees 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quart 2023	381.00
US Treasury	Federal Tax Withholding Apr/May	630.82
Village of Rushsylvania	Municipal Income Tax Withholding Apr/May	88.45
Village Tax Collections	Municipal Tax Collection Fees Mar/Apr/May	2637.34

**CHRIS COAK REPORT**

Water/Wastewater Superintendent, Chris Coak submitted a list of projects completed and work to be done. Gallons pumped 1,189,000, Gallons billed 1,040,400 at 87%. The vines and trees behind the garage downtown have been cut down and killed. The village clean up dumpsters were monitored. Three dumpsters were filled. Hazard mitigation updates were sent to the Logan County FEMA. A fire hydrant on South Sandusky was damaged by an unknown vehicle. The pipe was sheered near the bottom. As there were two newer hydrants close to the location, the hydrant was capped off and abandoned. The license plate registrations were renewed for the trucks. Most alleys and driveways were graveled to fill potholes. New flags and banners were hung downtown. They will be updated with red, white, and blue near the Independence Day celebration. The first load of 1.7 tons of sludge was hauled to the landfill. The EPA grant that had been applied for was denied. If another similar grant becomes available an application will be sent. A rag rake for the lagoon lift station was found. It would catch some of the wipes and other solids before they get to the pump saving much wear and tear. Due to the cost, Lyons Welding was contacted and will build a similar basket for a much lower cost. The street sign pole at Rush Street and Stewart Street was damaged and replaced. The sewer line at 232 Miami Road was jetted. A 50 amp service was installed at the park for vendors at the Independence Day celebration. A contingency plan was updated and submitted to OEPA as per the recent inspection. A new post hole digger was purchased at Troyers Engines. No trespassing signs were installed in the field behind Railroad Street. Scrap metal will be taken to be recycled. Due to poor weather in May, hydrants will be flushed on Wednesday, June 7. Fiscal Officer, Kathy Stierhoff, was asked to contact WPKO radio station to request announcements. The venting system in the screen room and the hard wiring to the diesel fuel tank have not been completed due to scheduling with the electricians. Concrete repair will be completed for the clear well hatch per OEPA inspection. The chlorine tank at the water plant will be replaced. The chemical company should service this tank at no cost to the village.

Tim Rader inquired about brush on CR 113. Chris Coak said he was aware of the brush and planned to cut it back.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 644-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

## KATHY STIERHOFF, FISCAL OFFICER

Mrs. Stierhoff reported that she will be on vacation from June 11-16. Water bills will be printed before she leaves and arrangements have been made to get them mailed on time. The ARPA report has not been submitted. Errors on the report are not able to be corrected. A case number has been created and contact will hopefully be made soon to complete this report.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Street Committee – Tim Rader asked about the Ohio Public Works Commission street project. Chris Coak said he was aware that some of the projects have been initiated. He has not received any time schedule for the Village's project. Trish Wilson asked if the pothole on South Sandusky could be checked and repaired.

Parks Committee – Trish Wilson stated that the committee has looked at the playground equipment. The committee would like to meet with a representative of Miracle playground equipment and give them a list of what the village would like to replace and repair and get prices. Council was asked to consider an acceptable budget for the playground project. Sarah Eagy asked if a special meeting could be scheduled to meet with the representative. The committee members and Chris Coak will meet initially with the representative to get information. The possibility of replacing the equipment a few pieces at a time over several years was discussed.

Code Enforcement Committee – Chris Coak stated there was no information to be shared.

Records Committee – Jeremy Lowe stated there was no information to be shared other than the Public Records Ordinance to be presented to Council at this meeting.

Ordinance Committee – Sarah Eagy stated that the Noise Ordinance will be presented this evening. The committee would like to see it passed as soon as possible as issues continue to arise.

Finance Committee – Jason Miller reported that the contract with Byhalia.net was discussed and input was received from Solicitor, Zeb Wagner.

## RESIDENT COMMENTS

Victoria Zupan, 207 N Sandusky Street, Rushsylvania, OH, asked if park benches could be added or moved to the area around the playground for parents to watch their children on the equipment. Only one bench is available in that area. Chris Coak stated that the benches are very difficult to move especially as long as they have been in the park. Sarah Eagy stated that West Mansfield bought their own concrete mold for making benches saving expense. Chris Coak will contact them to see how to purchase a mold or to ask if they are willing to loan their mold for village use.

Scott Stanfield, 6915 TR 110, Rushsylvania, OH, and Rachel Stahler, 177 S Sandusky Street, Rushsylvania, OH, were in attendance to represent Stanfield Technologies operating as Gandl Company. They are concerned with Byhalia.net requesting use of the village water tower to place antennae. He stated that they have made many investments in internet service in the village since 2010. They also purchased a building in the village clearing taxes and water/sewer charges for business use. They are concerned with service becoming congested in the area causing difficulties for both service providers. Mr. Stanfield would like to present a proposal for Stanfield Technologies to receive access to the water tower at such point frequencies are released by the FCC. He would offer payment to the village as well as exclusive connection offers to village residents. Jason Miller asked if the finance committee could look over the proposal. Ms. Stahler stated she would email the proposal to Mr. Miller.

Kelly Gibson and Troy Gibson, 5911 SR 47E, Bellefontaine, OH, located in Rushcreek Township, were in attendance representing Byhalia.net. Mr. Gibson stated that he had submitted a copy of his contract for use of the village water tower as well as insurance coverage information. He asked where the village stood in this process. Jason Miller stated that he felt the finance committee needed to look at both proposals. Sarah Eagy agreed the committee needed to give due diligence to this process. Solicitor, Zeb Wagner, stated that Mr. and Mrs. Gibson could provide any information about their proposal at this meeting. Mr. Gibson stated that his contract has been laid out for the village. He stated that new technologies have been developed that help avoid interference. He will provide access to more rural areas as well as options for village residents. He has received requests from area residents asking for internet

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

service. He is currently using a Logan County Sheriff's tower. He has been told that his tower actually boosts their signal.

Tim Rader asked what the village will receive from each business. Mr. Stanfield stated that the signals in the area are already crowded and added service will only make it worse. Mr. Gibson stated that he would not offer his service if it were not a quality service. Jason Miller stated that rural areas need service and small companies are often their only option. Rachel Stahler stated that when two radio stations operate on the same frequency, no one can get service. Right now Stanfield Technologies only has to be concerned with their own interference. Mr. Gibson said his service gives freer channels that won't interfere. Rachel Stahler stated that they can't afford to install where service may be unreliable as then customers are frustrated. Sarah Eagy asked Ms. Stahler how far out of town their service reached. Mr. Stanfield stated that they can reach three miles out of town in most areas. They have a link on their webpage noting what areas they serve. Mr. Gibson stated that all providers overlap and don't interfere. They work around any interference every day. Jason Miller stated that competition can be a good thing because then the consumer wins and both services should improve. He wants the finance committee to compare the two proposals and come up with a plan.

## OLD BUSINESS

Jason Miller stated that the finance committee is still working on the employee handbook. He has some time off work coming up and he will be able to spend more time getting it updated.

Chris Crumley informed the board that both AG&E and Aspen have very comparable rates. He suggests using Aspen as they came to the village and while AG&E did not return his calls, Aspen reached out to him and answered all questions. Solicitor, Zeb Wagner, suggested having a representative from Aspen attend the July meeting with the needed legislation ready for Council to pass and get the issue on the November ballot.

Acting Mayor, Jason Miller, stated that Mayor, Phillip Wright, is waiting for the representative from LUC Regional Planning Commission to suggest dates to begin the Planning Commission meetings.

## NEW BUSINESS

Keith Levan sent a message to Council about an alley between 135 Rush Street and 151 Rush Street that has caused some contention. He asked if Council could just close this alley. Council stated that it is not a service alley and could be closed, however alley closures must be brought before the board by an adjacent property owner and agreed to by all adjacent property owners.

Fiscal Officer, Kathy Stierhoff, informed Council that Mayor, Phillip Wright, Member, Jeremy Lowe, and Member, Chris Crumley must run for office this fall as their terms are up the end of 2023.

Trish Wilson noted there is a hole in the walking track. Chris Coak said he is aware of the hole, but isn't sure the best way to repair it. He is working on a solution.

Sarah Eagy asked if there were an update on the beer garden form the Independence Day celebration. No one in attendance was aware of any updates.

Chris Coak informed the board that the Board of Public Affaris approved an inspection of the water tower this summer as it is every five years.

Acting Mayor, Jason Miller, stated that after reading the insurance information from Byhalia.net, he isn't sure the village coverage for the water tower is sufficient. Fiscal Officer, Kathy Stierhoff, was asked to email the policy to Mr. Miller so the finance committee could look it over. If there are concerns, the committee will contact Stolly Insurance for information.

## LEGISLATIVE

Acting Mayor, Jason Miller, asked Solicitor, Zeb Wagner, about publishing ordinances in the newspaper before they are acted upon. This has not been done in the past. Mr. Wagner suggested tabling all ordinances tonight, getting them published before the next meeting, and acting upon them at the July meeting. Jason Miller thanked Mr. Wagner for keeping Council abreast of issues that need to be corrected. Mr. Miller then asked Council if there were any discussion needed for any of the proposed ordinances.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Jason Miller expressed his appreciation that a differentiation was made concerning email vs hard copy copies of village documents in the Public Records Ordinance.

Jason Miller stated that some adjustments were made to the Noise Ordinance to follow ORC regulations. Jeremy Lowe expressed his concern with some of the wording in the ordinance stating he felt areas were too vague. Sarah Eagy requested that Jeremy Lowe submit wording for these areas that would alleviate his concerns and they would work through the changes.

Chris Crumley moved to table the Legislative portion of the agenda to the July 10 meeting. Tim Rader seconded the motion. Jeremy Lowe, yes; Trish Wilson, yes; Sarah Eagy, yes; Jason Miller, yes. Motion carried.

No other business was presented, so Sarah Eagy made a motion to adjourn. Jeremy Lowe seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting Adjourned.

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on Monday, July 10, at 7:00 P.M. The Board of Public Affairs meeting will be at 6:30 P.M. that same evening.

  
MAYOR

  
FISCAL OFFICER