

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Village of South Amherst Meeting
REGULAR COUNCIL
August 14, 2023

Call to order:

7:00 p.m. – The council meeting was called to order by Mayor David Leshinski and opened with the Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called:

Councilmember Michele Jeffers	P
Councilmember Scott Jones	P
Councilmember Becky Siesky	P
Councilmember Jeri Leigh Siss	P
Councilmember David Troike	P
President Pro Tempore Jeanne Maschari	P

Ex officio members:

Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke	EA
Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Law Director Matthew Mishak	P

(EA – excused absences)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA July 24, 2023

Councilmember Jeffers moved to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES July 24, 2023

Councilmember Jones moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES August 2, 2023

Councilmember Siesky moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

VISITORS

SABPA – Thomas Pellitteri
Crawford

SAFD – Interim Chief John

Service Department – David Valentine
Lake St.

Dennis Hevener – resident 311 N.

MAYOR

NOACA

Read the annual letter that came with the invoice for \$323.00. Councilmember Maschari asked what the benefits of NOACA are. The mayor responded that there are possible federal grants that are representative from North Ridgeville would help us with, plus there are road surveys/evaluations. At this time nothing has been done with the road evaluations.

Councilmember Maschari moved to table the decision on payment of the invoice for NOACA. Councilmember Scott Jones seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Siss would like the mayor to look for any further material that has been received from NOACA and to be shared with council.

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Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion passed.

FISCAL OFFICER

Payment Listing 7/21– 8/10/23

Presented to council.

July Bank Reconciliation

Presented to council.

July Mayor's Court

Gross Receipts	Ohio Reparations	City of Oberlin	Total net Receipts to SA	Computer Fund Clerk	Computer Fund Court	General Fund
\$10,590.00	\$2,495.00	\$99.00	\$7,996.00	\$680.00	\$208.00	\$7,108.00

RECORDS CLERK

Building & Zoning Reports

2023 CURRENT BUILDING PERMITS - July

ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
305 E Main St	Roof, doors, windows, siding NO PERMIT
307 W Main St	Fence
250 S Lake St	Siding NO PERMIT
207 Oakdale	Driveway NO PERMIT
500 W Main St	Church Roof
502 W Main St	Parsonage Roof
141 E Main St	Roof
532 S Lake St	Roof

2023 CURRENT ZONING PERMITS - June

Address	DESCRIPTION
307 W Main	Fence

Committee Schedules

2024 Calendar: Audit/Finance second Tuesdays at 7 Bldg. & Grounds as needed
Ordinance second Thursdays 9 am Safety will have answer at 8/28 meeting
CED as needed Admin as needed

Visioning Update

Survey

- Councilmember Maschari will draft a brief statement to be placed prior to the water system question.

Steering Committee

- Discussion included reaching out to residents via a social media survey for volunteers, who should be on the committee, and to have at least two councilmembers on the committee.

Councilmember Maschari moved to have information added to the Community Survey asking for volunteers for the Steering Committee. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion passed.

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Councilmember Maschari moved to limit the Steering Committee to 18 members with a minimum of 2 councilmembers. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.
Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

DEPARTMENTS

Service

Mayor Leshinski thanked the service worker for all his help last Friday with clearing out the BPA stone pile prior to the work on the parking lot.

Fire

July Call Reports

Fire	EMS	MVA	Mutual	Other
2	14		1	

One auxiliary firefighter will be attending Firefighter 1 training in September. Firefighter Kyle Urig passed his EMT registry. Maintenance on apparatus is completed and the front HVAC went out, waiting for a quote.

BWC Grant

A grant is available for turnout gear. The officers are working on gathering information.

Chief Selection

Criteria is being set by a chief committee with the testing to be done by 9/30. There will be a written and oral exam, plus a situational judgement test. After that we will take the committee's recommendation under advisement. At this time the exam will only be given to internal candidates.

Police

Traffic Citation for July 6 – August 14

Traffic Citation Written: 107 Speed, 2 Stop Sign, 1 Right on Red, 2 Expired License, 1 DUS, 1 Reckless Operation, 1 Running Red Light, 1 Failure to Control

Councilmember Siss inquired on the status of the new vehicle. Mayor Leshinski responded that the original vehicle was damaged by the manufacture, so the dealer had to locate a new Ford Interceptor to fulfil the order. Arrival date is to be determined.

BOARDS

Cemetery

Councilmember Siss asked for clarification on the clerk status. Mayor Leshinski responded that the new hire had worked for approximately three days and then resigned due to unforeseen circumstances. The position has been reposted.

Park (Councilmember Jeffers presented.)

The wellstone with the donor plaque has been installed between the pavilion and the playground.

The board approved the request of Kathy Thomas to hold a memorial basketball tournament in memory of Staff Sgt. James Hunter on May 24, 2024.

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Councilmember Siss thanked the service worker for taking care of the park and mentioned how there has been an increase in community members using the park.

SABPA (Councilmember Siss presented.)

Hydrants

Three hydrants are not working, Kenwood and E Main are the top priority to be replaced. The operator was to get quotes on replacements.

Billing

The interim clerk is working on some billing issues, July late fees will be waived.

Valves

Councilmember Maschari moved to have the service worker GPS water valves plus drive the truck, while the water operator exercises the water valves. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Siss stated that with the EPA requirements, exercising of the valves needs to be done sooner rather than later. It was estimated to take between 25-40 hours. The board recommends the project be completed by the first week of September, 2023.

Jeffers Jones Maschari Siesky Siss Troike Motion passed.

Communication

Councilmember Siss discussed the lack of communication surrounding the brown water issue that occurred on August 13, 2023. Ms. Siss stated, "... as representatives of council, our job is to represent and best serve the residents. If we don't know what is going on, we can't answer questions." There were numerous parties involved and it seems there were significant gaps in the information provided. Ms. Siss sent a text to the council so that they had some level of knowledge in order to answer any resident concerns they may have received. Ms. Siss is not asking to know every minute piece of information but enough accurate information to give credible responses in a timely manner instead of always seeming to be crisis management mode. Councilmember Siss asked of the mayor, that when you know information as in the situation that occurred on 8/13/23, that it must be communicated with council in order to stay on top of the situation.

Councilmember Maschari spoke with the water operator earlier today (8/14/23) and there are components that need to be included in the process of communication. Such as being able to reach board members, if the operator does not respond. Ms. Maschari and the operator went through different scenarios and what the steps of communication should be. This will be presented at the next SABPA meeting.

Board member Pellitteri agreed with the statements made by the two councilmembers and felt one of the largest issues was that he had to find out through residents that there was an issue. After a discussion with the treatment operator on (8/13/23/) the protocol will be to first call the water operator, if there is no response then he is to call a SABPA board member, then the mayor. There was no report of hydrant flushing done by the SAFD, even though they were called out, there was no WENS call issued until later in the day. "I'm not hearing from people who were actually in the know but from residents and that is why I'm so ticked off because I spent my day until 4:30 p.m. going around and re-flushing (hydrants) where people still had brown water....

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While I'm still on this board for a very short time, call me, I live just up the road and I'll come up and take care of it, if he (water operator) is not going too." stated Mr. Pellitteri. The water operator stated that he did not have his phone with him, and Mr. Pellitteri replied that would be dealt with separately.

COMMITTEES

Bldg.& Grounds

Antenna

Mayor Leshinski stated that there was another piece of conduit buried. VASU did not reply, Cleveland Communications said the wires were not RF wires, they were power. Councilmember Troike said, "one is power, one telephone, and one is the old network cable." Councilmember Troike will have them properly identified by the meeting on August 28, 2023.

Street-Sidewalk-Service

Maroy Dr.

The service worker received a call regarding work that was done on the Maroy Dr. stormwater project. The resident was not happy with the cold patch at the end of the driveway that was deteriorating and the topsoil that was used. Mr. Pellitteri stated that, "there had been three loads of topsoil used, grass planted and then it is up to the homeowner to water. Regarding the cold patch – the resident watched the company form up the edge of the driveway and nothing was said back in November and now it's August and there's a problem."

Councilmember Jones said in a situation like this it comes back to this hub (administration) and there is a contact form on the website and the "HOW DO I" widget, where an issue can be reported. The administration (mayor and council) needs to handle these types of situations.

Additional comments that were made by council: (Jones) residents should use the "How Do I" widget on the village website or get the HeyGov app to report issues, file permits or rent the pavilion; (Siss) as elected officials it is our job to communicate with the residents that we are doing the best we can and that we don't have the money for road projects at this time and to have a united voice; (Maschari) there should be a sign-off on the completion of a project.

Councilmember Siss moved to have a before and after inspection for projects done by a village representative. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

Jeffers Jones Maschari Siesky Siss Troike

Motion passed.

Councilmember Maschari moved to have Mayor Leshinski send a letter to the resident including the statement that Maroy Dr. will be put on the list for repair as money becomes available.

Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers Jones Maschari Siesky abstain Siss Troike

Motion

passed.

Audit/ Finance (Councilmember Siesky presented.)

During the Finance meeting the fiscal officer discussed 2023 reappropriations. Mileage reimbursement for the water operator was also discussed.

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Safety

Safety Committee chair said they are working on a job description for the Fire chief position. Councilmember Jones asked if applications were still being accepted. Mayor responded that the panel felt only internal applications should be accepted at this time.

Community & Economic Development

Kyle Urig is SAFD Association President.

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 708-23 (Emergency) SAFD 2022 The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Acceptance

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Resolution No. 708-23.

Councilmember

Jones seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Resolution No. 708-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

Resolution No. 709-23 (Emergency) Town Web Website Agreement

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Resolution No. 709-23.

Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Resolution No. 709-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Siesky asked for clarification, if this was what we currently had. The Records Clerk responded that Town Web is our current provider, and this is a new three-year agreement along with an updated redesign.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

Resolution No. 710 (First Reading) First Responder Recognition

ADJOURNMENT Time 8:21 p.m. Councilmember Siss moved to adjourn. Councilmember Siesky.

Respectfully submitted,



Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke


Mayor David Leshinski