

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Village of South Amherst Meeting
REGULAR COUNCIL
November 13, 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	P
Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Law Director Matthew Mishak	P

(EA – excused absences)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA November 13, 2023

Councilmember Troike moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 23, 2023

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

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

FIREFIGHTER RECOGNITION

Swearing In of Firefighter Jill Russel.

LCPH PRESENTATION – 2024 Home Sewage Regulations (Ann Maczuga, Scott Bozna, Ryan)

All homeowners with a HSTS (Home Sewage Treatment System) in Lorain County are required to have an O&M (Operation & Maintenance) permit issued by LCPH:

- Newly enrolled homeowners will receive a 3-year permit.
- LCPH will send permit information and invoice to homeowners in December 2023.
- The permit fee of \$120 is due by January 31, 2024.
- For further information on HSTS's visit the LCPH website at:

<https://www.loraincountyhealth.com/sewage>

VISITORS

SAFD: John Crawford, Jessica Beran, Kyle Urig, Aaron Grimm, Bob Becker, Tim Moore, Jill Russell (Spouses) Zach Russell, Alyse Urig

Annis Rd: Tom & Chris Gallagher 390, Lisa Lawlis & Cevin Milas 451, Jim & Tammy Stanley 101, George McKinney 449, Donna & Tom Hauck 359, Jen & Josh Schlifer 393, George Osman 446, Cindy Hixenbaugh 359, Daniel Kurth 426, Dennis Burdue 463

E. Main St: Velma & William Rutherford 119, Jacob Sosinski 203, Jason Lovejoy 206, Giovana Tortora 305, Mike Sangiacomo 111

Maple St: Dean Nichols 107, Todd Viock 111

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Maroy Dr: Sharon & Richard Eckard 129, Michel Glowacki 125, Kathy Thomas 104
N. Lake St: Mary Bennett 335
Oakdale Dr: Rich & Janice Szmania 222
S. Lake St: Stefanie Cole 686, Jessica & Mark Leshinski 592
W. Main St: R. Conlon 120, Sherry Smith 415, Robert Johnson 151 W Main

Residents were given the opportunity to voice their concerns regarding the proposed Backyard Chicken Ordinance. The ordinance will be tabled until after the February 8th Ordinance Committee meeting, at which the residents were encouraged to attend the 7 p.m. meeting.

MAYOR

Eclipse Update

County is expecting at least an influx of a million people. Communities are making plans. Internet/cell phone overload may shut down the system which would interfere with credit/debit cards.

Fire Chief

Mayor Leshinski recommended John Crawford as the SAFD Fire Chief.
Councilmember Maschari moved to accept the recommendation of John Crawford for the appointment of SAFD Fire Chief. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.
Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

Assistant Chief

Mayor Leshinski recommended Ron Zaleha
Councilmember Jeffers moved to accept the recommendation of Ron Zaleha for the appointment of SAFD Assistant Fire Chief. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.
Discussion: Councilmember Siss asked the mayor, "what makes Mr. Zaleha the best candidate?" Mayor Leshinski responded that he has been on the dept for over 15 years, blue card and many certifications.
Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss nay Troike abstain Motion passed.

Cemetery Board Member

Mayor Leshinski recommended Lawrence Verga to be appointed as a member of the Cemetery Board.
Councilmember Jones moved to accept the recommendation of Lawrence Verga for the appointment of Cemetery Board Member. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.
Discussion: Mr. Verga's residency was confirmed.
Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x Motion passed.

FISCAL OFFICER

Payment Listing 10/20 – 11/9/2023

Presented to council.

Financial Reports

Fund Summary, Revenue Summary, Appropriation Summary were presented to council.

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October Bank Reconciliation

Is completed and ready for council signatures.

Mayor's Court October Financials

<u>Gross Receipts</u>	<u>Ohio Reparations</u>	<u>City of Oberlin</u>	<u>Total net Receipts to SA</u>	<u>Computer Fund Clerk</u>	<u>Computer Fund Court</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>\$10,685.00</u>	<u>\$2,652.50</u>	<u>\$103.50</u>	<u>\$7,929.00</u>	<u>\$739.00</u>	<u>\$215.00</u>	<u>\$6,975.00</u>

RITA 1 Year Anniversary Income Tax Penalty Assessment

RITA – last year the council voted to forgo any penalties or interest for income tax collection. The council must decide to follow the ordinance or extend the penalty forgiveness.

Councilmember Troike moved to reimplement the recommendation of the income tax penalty assessment. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

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

PEP Grant

Insurance safety reimbursement grant of \$666.31 was received and used for park security camera.

RECORDS CLERK

2023 CURRENT BUILDING PERMITS - October

ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
6291 Russia Rd	Roof
412 Leonard St	Alteration to pole barn

2023 CURRENT ZONING PERMITS - October

Address	DESCRIPTION
323 W Main St	Driveway
153 E Main St	2 sheds

Steering Committee

The last meeting of the Steering Committee will be on December 6th at 7 pm. Aislinn Consulting will give a summary of the Committee's recommendations at the January 8th Council Meeting, where the council will need to vote on those recommendations. The community volunteers have made a great contribution to the committee with their input. Going forward it has been strongly recommended by the consulting firm to have a Planning Commission in place for next year.

2024 Calendar

Councilmember Siesky moved to approve the 2024 Village Calendar with the reconsideration of Halloween. Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Maschari asked to reconsider the date of Halloween and to have a survey done on the Village FB page to see when the residents would like to have Halloween (either on actual date or the Sunday before).

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

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DEPARTMENTS

Police

Blotter October 4-November 13

Traffic Citations Written (149): 139 Speed, 5 Stop sign, 2 DUS, 1 No Passing, 1 High Beams, 1 Possession Drugs

Location of Stops: 53 Russia, 47 W Main, 21 S Lake, 10 N Lake, 3 N Quarry, 15 E Main, 5 Annis

Calls for Service: 7

Councilmember Maschari recognized the police department for their performance and how once they were given the proper tools to perform their duties, they have excelled.

BOARDS

Park

The monthly meeting has been rescheduled to November 30th at 7:30 p.m. Park closing is weather dependent.

SABPA (Councilmember Siss presented.)

Operator is back on light duty. Data Command for the tower is renewed through 2024. Catch basin at 303 Elm will be replaced. All physical assets were reported to the fiscal officer and the MOR was submitted for October.

COMMITTEES

Safety (Councilmember Jeffers presented.)

Thank the Fire & Police Departments for their participation with the Halloween Parade and especially the Firemen's Association for their donation of cider and donuts.

Thank you to the residents for passing the Fire Levy.

Community & Economic Development (Councilmember Siss presented.)

County Bicentennial – Time Capsule

Recommend that we participate in the time capsule. Festivities will be on May 24, 2024.

Community Event

Reviewed Halloween Parade/Trick-or-Treat.

Tree Lighting will be held December 7th, if residents would like to be involved, please contact Councilmember Siss. The council will be serving hot chocolate and donuts.

Newsletter

Information must be sent to Councilmember Siss by this Friday, November 17.

Administrative (Councilmember Maschari presented.)

Village Administrator Job Description, Recommendation

Councilmember Siss moved to approve the revised job description for Village Administrator and to be titled Village Utility Administrator. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Appointment

Councilmember Maschari moved to recommend David Valentine as the Village Utility Administrator. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Water Department Liaisons

The committee recommends that if Ordinance 1777-23 passes that we that the two liaisons for the BPA continue to assist the Village Utility Administrator.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Dominic Gentile's appointment has not been previously approved by council. Mayor Leshinski asked for a motion of approval.

Councilmember Jones moved to accept Dominic Gentile for ZBA. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Siss stated that council should be made aware of prospective appointees prior to the appointments. Councilmember Maschari moved to table the decision until the planning commission is formed. Councilmember Jeffers moved to table. There was no conclusive second to either of the motions to table when the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 1777-23 (Final Reading) An ordinance abolishing the Board of Trustees of Public Affairs for the Village of South Amherst and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1777-23.

Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1776-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1778-23(Final Reading) An ordinance creating the position of Village Utility Administrator and fixing the rate of compensation and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1778-23.

Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1778-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1779-23 (Final Reading)An ordinance enacting Section 505.16 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of South Amherst, Ohio to permit residents to harbor, maintain, keep or control backyard chickens under certain circumstances.

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Councilmember Jones moved to table Ordinance No. 1779-23 until February 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Troike seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1783-23 (Emergency) An ordinance to amend certain sections of the Village of South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 182 Sections .03; .062; .10 Income Tax and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1783-23.

Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari move to pass Ordinance No. 1783-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

Discussion: Records Clerk clarified for the visitors that the amendments to the income tax ordinance were State mandated.

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

Ordinance No. 1784-23 (Emergency) An ordinance authorizing the fiscal officer to certify the utility delinquency for parcel no. 0900023101005, 6429 Russia Rd. South Amherst Ohio 44001 ("The Property), for the amount of \$215.73 to submit to the Lorain County Auditor's Office as a Special Delinquency Assessment for placement on the tax duplicate for collection in one annual installment in the year, 204; and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1784-23.

Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1784-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1785-23 (Emergency) An ordinance authorizing the fiscal officer to certify the Village's total cost of nuisance abatement at 6429 Russia Rd, Permanent Parcel No. 0900023101005, to submit to the Lorain County Auditor's Office as a Special Assessment for placement on the tax duplicate for collection in one annual installment in the year 204; and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1785-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1785-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1786-23 (Emergency) An ordinance repealing existing South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 921 enacting new South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 921 Water and declaring an emergency.

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Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1786-23.

Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1786-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1787-23 (Emergency) An ordinance to amend certain sections of the Village of South Amherst Codified Ordinance 1335.01; .05; .09 to replace references to the South Amherst Board of Public Affairs with the Village of South Amherst and/or Designee; declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 1787-23.

Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Ordinance No. 1787-23. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 716-23 (Final Reading) Employment agreement with Matthew A. Mishak as Law Director for the Village of South Amherst 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024, authorizing appointment of Prosecutor and Administrative Assistant.

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Resolution No. 716-23. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Resolution No. 717-23 (Second Reading) Rate of Compensation for Records Clerk & Administrative Assistant

Resolution No. 718-23 (Emergency) Agreement to provide Emergency Medical/Rescue and Fire Service to New Russia Township from 1/1/24 thru 12/31/26.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules for Resolution No. 718-23. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to pass Resolution No. 718-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Appointment of Village Utility Administrator

Mayor Leshinski recommends David Valentine as the Village Utility Administrator.

Councilmember Maschari moved to approve David Valentine as the Village Utility Administrator. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

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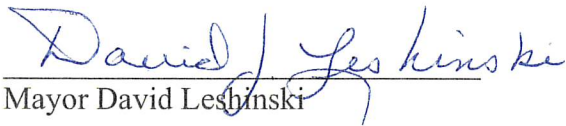
Councilmember Jeffers asked if there would be a smooth transition from the incumbent mayor to the mayor elect and Mayor Leshinski answered affirmatively.

ADJOURNMENT Time 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke



Mayor David Leshinski