

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Village of South Amherst Meeting
PUBLIC HEARING – 2024 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
November 27, 2023

CALL TO ORDER 6:45 p.m. by Mayor Leshinski

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Michele Jeffers	P	Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke	P
Councilmember Scott Jones	P	Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Councilmember Becky Siesky	P	Law Director Matthew Mishak	
Councilmember Jeri Leigh Siss	P		
Councilmember David Troike	Absent		(EA – excused absences)
President Pro Tempore Jeanne Maschari	P		

FISCAL OFFICER

For the 2024 Appropriations there were a few additions such as the SAFD Holding Tank that did not occur for this year and there was a reduction to what we pay rural water. Mayor Leshinski asked if the budget would be carried through April 1st. The fiscal officer responded that permanent appropriations would be voted on in February. There should be a decent carryover as long as there are no catastrophes before the end of the year.

ADJOURNMENT 6:50 p.m.

REGULAR COUNCIL
November 27, 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	EA
President Pro Tempore Jeanne Maschari	P

Ex officio members:

Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke	P
Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Law Director Matthew Mishak	P
Utility Admin. David Valentine	P
	(EA – excused absences)

Councilmember Maschari moved to excuse Councilmember Troike due to a home emergency.

Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA November 27, 2023

Councilmember Siss moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES November 13, 2023

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

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

Motion passed.

VISITORS

Bramhall Engineering – Aaron Appell, Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant (WWIG) Program.

The WWIG Program is sponsored through the Ohio Department of Development. Round 6 applications for the grant open on November 28th with the submission deadline January 17, 2024. Can apply for up to five million dollars, although future engineering costs are not included in the grant, and it must be shovel ready. Mr. Appell recommended pursuing funds for water line replacement and storm sewers, keeping in mind where the sanitary sewer would eventually be placed. Funding for sanitary sewers could wait because there are still too many unknowns, especially where the sewage would actually be discharged. Lorain County is attempting to implement a 61-19 plan which would regionalize sewers throughout the county, in which the sewage would go to approximately two plants. Currently there are also State Capital Budget funds available for community type projects such as park improvement and trail connectivity.

Mr. Appell agreed with Councilmember Maschari regarding backing into a project by determining the availability of village funds for engineering cost and existing project plans in order to produce a shovel ready project in the time frame necessary for the grant application. If the grant proposal was not approved for Round 6, it may be resubmitted for other grants. Councilmember Siss asked for an overview of the grant process and Mr. Appell replied that, "Bramhall produces an engineering budget, construction cost, set timelines and preparing various documents. The State does not release the scoring criteria for these projects." Mayor Leshinski reiterated that we need to not only look at today, but to look at the future. Councilmember Maschari nominated the Utility Administrator David Valentine to be the point person on this grant project and to coordinate with Mr. Appell within a week.

Chris Gallagher 390 Annis Rd
Mark Leshinski 592 S. Lake St
SAFD: Fire Chief John Crawford, Cheryl Crawford, Tonya Crawford and family
Assistant Fire Chief Ron Zaleha, Lori Zaleha

SWEARING IN FIRE CHIEF & ASSISTANT

Mayor Leshinski swore in John Crawford as the South Amherst Fire Department Chief and Ron Zaleha as the Assistant Fire Chief

MAYOR

RFP Sandstone Ambulance District

The only response to the RFP was from Life Care Ambulance Service. The Village share will be between \$9-10,000.00 annually. The total contract for the district is \$183,000.00. The entire time that Life Care has provided service to the district has been at no cost to the Village.

Councilmember Siss asked if Life Care was open to negotiation and the reply was that they were firm on the amount presented.

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FISCAL OFFICER

Payment Listing 11/10-11/22/23

Presented to council.

Financial Reports

The following reports were presented to council: Fund Summary, Revenue Summary, Appropriation Summary.

RECORDS CLERK

VFDB Meeting December 11 at 6:45 p.m.

VFDB Council Representatives & Resident

Councilmember Jones moved to nominate Councilmember Jeffers to the VFDB.

Councilmember Siss seconded the motion. Councilmember Jeffers moved to nominate Councilmember Maschari to the VFDB. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

A Village Resident Representative to the VFDB is still required. Council suggested asking a member of the Steering Committee.

UTILITY ADMINISTRATOR

Water

Meter pit at 5906 Russia Rd was installed.

Storm

Catch basin Elm and Fire Hydrant and E Main/Kenwood are scheduled to be completed this week.

Reports

- Given once a month at the second meeting of the month.
- Provided as a written document or given orally.
- Required reports:
 - a. Unaccounted for Water
 - b. Summary of delinquent accounts & how many were collected and shut-off.

COMMITTEES

Bldgs. & Grounds

The SAFD HVAC has not been completed as of 11/27/23.

Street-Sidewalk-Service (Utility Admin. presented.)

Speed Signs

Recommended to close out the current purchase order for two solar-powered signs seeing that there are not NOPEC Grant funds available and to reopen the discussion in 2024.

Audit/ Finance (Councilmember Siesky presented.)

The November Audit was completed with no issues reported.

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January 9th meeting – the committee chair will be out of town, will have a new date for the 12/11 meeting.

Community & Economic Development (Councilmember Siss presented.)

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the newsletter, finishing up Tree Lighting program.

Administrative (Councilmember Maschari presented.)

ZBA

Councilmember Maschari moved to approve the appointment of Domonic Gentile to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 1788-23 An ordinance to amend certain sections of the Village of South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 182 Sections .091: .094 Income Tax and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Maschari moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Ordinance No, 1788-23. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Maschari moved to approve Ordinance No. 1788-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1789-23 An ordinance enacting Section 921.081 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of South Amherst, pertaining to Acceptance of Payments and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Ordinance No, 1789-23. Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Ordinance No. 1789-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1790-23 An ordinance repealing existing South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 121 Section .01 enacting new South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 121 Section .01 and declaring an emergency,

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Ordinance No, 1790-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Ordinance No. 1790-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

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

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Ordinance No. 1791-23 An ordinance repealing existing South Amherst Codified Ordinance Chapter 135 Board of Trustees of Public Affairs enacting new Chapter 135 Village Utility Administrator and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Ordinance No, 1791-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike EA Motion passed.
Councilmember Jones moved to approve Ordinance No. 1791-23. Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 1792-23 An ordinance repealing existing Ordinance 1792-21 enacting New Mayor's Court Staff and rate of compensation and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Ordinance No, 1792-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike EA Motion passed.
Councilmember Jones move to approve Ordinance No. 1792-23. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

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

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 717-23 Rate of Compensation for Records Clerk and Administrative Assistant.

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 717-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

Resolution No. 719-23 *(Emergency)* Agreement to provide Emergency Medical/Rescue and Fire Service to Brownhelm Township from 1/1/24 thru 12/31/26.

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Resolution No, 719-23. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike EA Motion passed.
Councilmember Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 719-23. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

Resolution No. 720-23 *(Emergency)* Rate of Compensation for Water Clerk

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Resolution No, 720-23. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike EA Motion passed.
Councilmember Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 720-23. Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Maschari stated that Ms. Knudsen is a great asset to the Village.

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

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Resolution No. 721-23 (Emergency) Transition Authority from South Amherst Board of Trustees of Public Affairs to Village Utility Administrator

Councilmember Jones moved to suspend the rules and pass as an emergency Resolution No, 721-23. Councilmember Maschari seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 721-23. Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

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

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation No. 307

Councilmember Jones moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance No. 307. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

2024 Council Vacancy

Once Councilmember Jones receives his Mayor-Elect certification from the Lorain County Board of Elections, then the open council seat may be publicized.

The fiscal officer asked Council if the SABPA compensation for the month should be prorated or paid in full for the month of November.

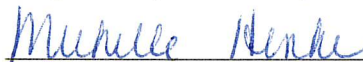
Councilmember Maschari moved to pay the SABPA in full for the month of November.

Councilmember Jones seconded the motion.

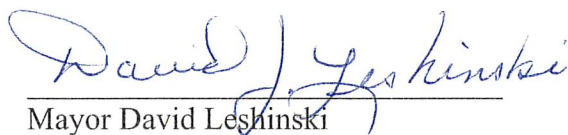
Jeffers x Jones x Maschari x Siesky x Siss Abstain Troike EA Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT Time 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke


Mayor David Leshinski