

The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Mayor Steve Smith presided over the meeting.

Members answering roll call were Kathy Burrier, Liz Dreher, Dustin Briggs, Don Wallick, Jeff Smith, and Martin Zehnder. Other's present were Legal Counsel Terry Seeberger, Police Chief Dave Warrick, Fire Chief Steve Laskey, Zoning Inspector Ted Foster, Press Representative Barb Limbacher, Jerry Schultz, Mike Rosenberry, Lewis Dreher, and Carl Newsom.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Jeff Smith, to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2023, council meeting. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Carl Newsom from the Strasburg Soccer Association addressed the council regarding the need for land for a 14U soccer field for the fall and noted that the association would like to maintain the current soccer fields at the park. Mayor Steve Smith noted that Wolfe Lawn & Landscape will be notified. Newsom noted that the association will go to the school board again to discuss the need for land for a soccer field for the 14U team. Jeff Smith suggested talking to the Lutheran Church about their open piece of ground.

Barb Limbacher expressed her congratulations to the Strasburg Girls Softball team and coaches on winning the state tournament.

Mayor Steve Smith expressed congratulations to the girls' softball team on their 9th win at state, reminded residents that golf carts must cross Wooster Avenue at the traffic lights, read an ODOT traffic count from June 23, 2022, that showed 12,170 vehicles, reminded residents to maintain the area between sidewalks and street, reported that Elizabeth Slater is interested in getting a schedule together of live entertainment on Thursday evenings for the green space, and suggested an entertainment committee to come up with ideas to utilize the space. Mayor Smith reported that the village's TAP Grant application has been approved for \$ 900,000.00 for the 1.1 million downtown improvement project that will include curbing, lighting, sidewalks, and drainage in 2026. Mayor Smith noted that part of the approval is in accordance with the safe routes to school and the waterline project on Wooster Avenue. Jeff Smith noted that at the next meeting we should know an answer on the next phase of the safe routes to school grant application.

Zoning Inspector Ted Foster read his report that included a permit for a new shed in a rear yard and a permit for a garage that was approved through the Board of Zoning Appeals. Foster reported that the Mathew Pryor property is starting to get cleaned up and asked Legal Counsel Terry Seeberger the next step to address the 338 4th Street NW property since it has already been declared a public nuisance. Foster noted that trash is again piling up along the alley at the rear of the property. Seeberger will look at the previous notice of public nuisance and will email Foster. Foster supplied the council with a handout regarding swimming pools and noted that the Planning Commission discussed the zoning ordinance regarding swimming pools and recommends to council new language regarding swimming pools. Foster noted that there were three concerns that need to be addressed and discussed the new language for the ordinance. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to authorize Legal Counsel Terry Seeberger to draw up an ordinance with the new language for the zoning ordinance regarding swimming pools. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Police Chief Dave Warrick updated council on the build of the new cruiser, reported to council that a complaint was received regarding a male and female using electricity from a park pavilion to run power tools to sand a pick-up truck, and reported 229 calls for May. Warrick reported that drugs are prevalent in the village from people coming in and out of the village and encouraged village residents to lock up their properties and vehicles.

Fire Chief Steve Laskey read his report that included 48 calls from 5/17/23 through 6/5/23, reported that the investigation is still ongoing for the fire at Sugarcreek Shavings, reported that two members have finished Firefighter Level One training and will be taking their state exams soon, will be taking part in joint training over the coming months with neighboring departments, currently working with the library staff to have them complete the brief review training of the AED, and reported that the departments call volume is starting to increase now that nicer weather is upon us, please be cautious of emergency vehicles exiting onto Wooster Avenue. Laskey read the mission and vision of the Strasburg Fire Department and noted that department is working very hard on that mission. Jeff Smith asked about the AED for the park and Laskey noted that the problem is having a secure location.

Finance – Chairman Jeff Smith reported that the county paving program will continue, asked council to consider investing in pickle ball courts at the park, asked council to consider radios for village vehicles and buildings, and provided council and zoning inspector with cost estimates for new signs for the north and south entrances to the village.

Park – Chairman Dustin Briggs expressed the need to purchase some all-purpose mound clay for the new ballfield at the park and that he has reached out to Lewis Landscape for cost estimates to do the two other ballfields. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to purchase mound clay. At roll call, all members voted approval. Briggs noted that some residents have asked about an area at the park for a dog park and asked the council to consider the suggestion and noted that he will get some prices for fencing.

Street and alley – Mayor Smith asked the committee to discuss the request from Jerry Schultz for center line striping on 6th Street NW and that Lambert suggested the center lane striping from Bodmer Avenue for all of the village east west streets that become county roads.

RESOLUTION 2023-8

Resolution 2023-8, A Resolution requesting Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce speed limit on Wooster Avenue South in area that was recently re-zoned, was given its second reading only.

RESOLUTION 2023-10

Resolution 2023-10 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve Resolution 2023-10, A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY, OHIO AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG THE VALUATION OF TAXABLE REAL ESTATE WITHIN THE VILLAGE'S BOUNDARIES, AND THE PROBABLE FUNDS THAT WOULD BE RAISED BY A CERTAIN MILLAGE OVER A FIVE YEAR TERM (BEING THE TAX YEARS 2024 THROUGH 2028) At roll call, all members voted approval and this resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 2023-12

Resolution 2023-12 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve Resolution 2023-12, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AWARD OF 2023 VILLAGE PAVING PROGRAM, BID THROUGH TUSCARAWAS COUNTY ENGINEER, TO NEWTON ASPHALT, INC. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Liz Dreher expressed thanks to Fire Chief Laskey and the department on behalf of a neighbor that had called 911 Sunday evening and noted that the department was very prompt and did a great job. Dreher noted that the neighbor wanted to thank the council for bringing on Fire Chief Laskey, noting the professionalism and manners of Laskey and the department coming into his home.

Jeff Smith expressed his gratitude to Duck Krantz for his years of commitment to the Strasburg girls' softball program and other softball programs in the county. Smith noted that Strasburg has been to state 18 times and has won 9 times and that his commitment is the reason for this success.

Martin Zehnder noted how nice the cemetery looked for Memorial Day. Foster agreed.

A lengthy discussion was held on the vote that was made at the September 20, 2022 meeting, regarding the new crosswalk on Wooster Avenue and the safety lighting at the crosswalk. Dustin Briggs noted that he would like to listen to the recording from the meeting and Zehnder stated that when the discussion was held on the safety lighting it was for a streetlight and that the safety lighting that has been installed was not approved.

Lewis Dreher addressed the council about the lights at the green space. Mayor Smith noted that they are set for noon to 10 pm on a timer.

A brief discussion was held on speeding on Fernsell Avenue and other village streets and Jeff Smith suggested temporary speed rolling humps to try in some areas of the village that blend into the asphalt.

A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to enter into an executive session at 7:36 pm to discuss imminent court action. At roll call, all members voted approval. Council reconvened at 7:46 pm. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to adjourn at 7:47 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.