

Village of Jacksonville Council Meeting
April 28, 2022
6:30 PM

The Village of Jacksonville met in regular session with Mayor Sam Smathers presiding and the meeting called to order at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Jay Chapman, Angela Strock, Butch Chapman, Clinton Augustine and Gary Simons. Also present were Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell, Water Operator Ron Riley, Administrator Ron Rockwell, Interim Fire Chief DJ Henry and Solicitor Andrew Grillo.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to excuse Councilperson Rachel Gratz from the April 28, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the March 31, 2022 Regular Council Minutes and the April 13, 2022 Special Council Minutes as read. Seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Erin Stevens, Community Liaison for the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC) appeared before Council. Stevens stated that SOPEC now has 250,000 customers and is the second largest customer of American Electric Power in Ohio. The current electric rates negotiated by SOPEC are locked in until June 30. Stevens presented street signs to Jacksonville commemorating that Jacksonville is one of only sixteen communities in Ohio considered "Green Power Communities". Stevens discussed possible grant opportunities for Jacksonville. Stevens stated American Electric Power is currently working to convert street lights to LED at their own expense.

Resident Emily Swart addressed Council to ask if anything official must be done for someone to perform fundraising for the park. Solicitor Grillo stated that any person can hold a fundraiser and donate the funds to the Village for a specified purpose without any action from Council.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Spring Cleanup has been scheduled with Bateman's Refuse for Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 8:00AM to 10:00AM at the Jacksonville Park. This event is open to Jacksonville residents who are in good standing with Bateman's Refuse. Smathers shared an email from Athens County EMA Director Don Gossel commending the Village of Jacksonville Council for the level of participation at the Disaster Response exercise held on Saturday, April 23, 2022. Gossel would like to work with Jacksonville to develop an official emergency plan.

Interim Fire Chief DJ Henry asked when he will be changed from Interim to Permanent. Smathers asked if Alan Exline needs to be appointed by Council to the fire department. Henry stated the application was turned in to the department today and the fire department still has to meet to vote before bringing the matter to Council.

Administrator Rockwell stated he has been working on wiring new emergency lights and emergency exit lights at the Municipal Building as well as other miscellaneous electrical items. This has been tedious due to the breakers not being clearly marked for the building. The labels are being updated as the breakers are identified.

Water Operator Riley reported that the annual Consumer Confidence Report is complete and notifications have been mailed to all water customers. Riley is currently awaiting EPA approval of the contingency plan. A flushing schedule, valve exercise plan and asset management plans are all in the process of being updated. Riley worked on the storm sewer at Fourth Street. Trash was picked up and mowing has been done along the highway and in the park.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell presented Council with the March 2022 Monthly Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliation. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the January and February Financial Statements presented at the March 31, 2022 meeting.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the January and February 2022 financial statements as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell stated the water office hours have been going well and more customers are coming in as word spreads. The hours have been printed on the May water bills, website and Village mobile app. Rockwell reported that the online bill payment option may be delayed by a couple of weeks. However, the Village will now be receiving a full

integration of the online billing system with the water software for no additional cost. The delay in launching the system will avoid customers having to re-register for online access when the integration switches. Rockwell stated she reached out to DLZ Ohio to request replacement of the bench damaged during the Sixth Street Storm Sewer project. Currently Rockwell is waiting to hear back from DLZ Ohio on the matter. Rockwell informed Council of the “revenue replacement” option being offered to municipalities by the U.S. Treasury as an allowable use for American Rescue Plan Act funds. The funds would remain in the American Rescue Plan Act fund on the Village financial statements. The reporting burden would be reduced. Procurement procedures will still need to meet State and Federal guidelines. However, additional uses for the funding are opened up by reporting the funding as “revenue replacement”. Rockwell recommended that Council take advantage of this opportunity.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to use all American Rescue Plan Act funding received by the Village of Jacksonville as revenue replacement. Seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Solicitor Andy Grillo stated there are currently no pending cases in municipal court. John Haseley, the previous Village Solicitor, provided Grillo with two boxes of Village files. Grillo stated he provided a sample noise ordinance to Fiscal Officer Rockwell who will forward the information to Council for review.

Residents Emily Swart and Amy Simons stated they will plant flowers at the Village welcome sign on May 7, 2022 at 10:00AM. They will need potting soil, mulch and flowers.

Council requested Grillo send a letter about litter on the Tinkham property.

Council discussed the steps necessary to replace the Village truck. Fiscal Officer Rockwell reached out to Unified Bank for information and monthly payment estimates for a loan and is awaiting a response. Once the estimated monthly payments are known Rockwell can forecast the amount the Village can afford to spend on a truck. Rockwell will also reach out to First National Bank for information.

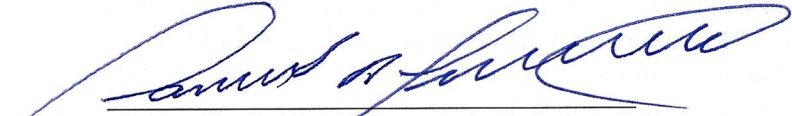
Councilperson Butch Chapman stated he wants to donate a used Ford Ranger to the Village for the Public Service Department. Council accepted the donation and thanked Chapman.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to remove the apple tree on the lot next to the Municipal Building. Seconded by Councilperson Simons. All Council voted “yes” except Councilperson Strock who abstained. Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 2022-16 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution 2022-16: A Resolution Declaring It Necessary To Levy A Tax In Excess Of The Ten Mill Limitation.

Mayor Smathers entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36P.



Mayor Sam Smathers



Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell