

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.
MAYOR WILLIAM G. KOONS PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bell, Berger, Canton, Cavanagh, Galicki, Porter

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Police Chief Rizzo, Solicitor Matheney

The Mayor called the Regular Council meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Fiscal Officer read the roll. **Porter made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023, Regular Council meeting minutes, seconded by Cavanagh. Voice vote – ayes, Bell, Canton, Cavanagh, Galicki, and Porter. Berger abstained. Motion carried. Porter made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023, Special Council meeting, seconded by Berger. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

MAYOR’S REPORT: The Mayor discussed recent meetings he and members of Council attended to include the Geauga County Health District Advisory Committee, Northeast Ohio City Council Association (NOCCA), State Senator Jerry Cirino, and the quarterly meeting of the Chagrin River Watershed Partners (CRWP). Berger was surprised to find that the CRWP’s 2023 budget was \$4,842,000. The membership dues will increase by 5%. They discussed the Chagrin Connect Project which runs from Lake Erie to the Chagrin Reservation and includes a bike path. It includes 10 communities and over 10 miles of bike trails and pedestrian bridges. Berger described other CRWP activities in surrounding communities. The Mayor added that he spoke to a representative of Geauga County who conducts burns and conveyed that he would like to observe one.

The Mayor was told by the League of Women Voters that there was no need for him to attend their event to speak about the levy. Instead, he will submit a letter to the newspaper.

The Ohio Municipal League (OML) conference is coming up and will be attended by Cavanagh and Galicki. The Mayor reported that there will be a Mayors’ meeting with Congress in Washington D.C., but he will not attend because he wants to attend the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA) luncheon.

The Mayor reported that he will be asking for approval of Greg Bruhn, Brad Fink, and Phyllis Marino as alternates to the Planning Commission. There is a need for an alternate to the Architectural Review Board (ARB), and the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) alternate has been used several times.

The Mayor requested a motion to hold a business breakfast on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Village Wine Bar. They would open the doors for the Village and the event would be catered by the Tame Rabbit, which is located across the hall. The purpose of the breakfast would be to talk to the businesses in the Village to discuss parking, safety, sidewalks, and signage, and to just check in with them. He had not heard back from the Wine Bar about using the space. Galicki asked how much this would cost, and the Mayor said it would be a maximum of \$250 for pastry and coffee from the Tame Rabbit. The Tame Rabbit would provide the food and the Village would have to physically pick it up and take it to the Village Wine Bar. Porter clarified that the Mayor was speaking of the Village Martini Bar, and the Mayor concurred. Cavanagh asked if the Martini Bar does that sort of thing, and the Mayor said no, but it was located across the hall from the Tame Rabbit. The Solicitor asked if this would be a meeting of Council. The Mayor said no, that it would just be the Chief and him depending

on the Chief's availability. He added that this is also if the Village Wine Bar agrees to allow the use of the space. Cavanagh thought it was a good idea and there had been recent issues with planning or zoning as well as a request for crosswalks.

The Mayor reported that the Cross-Country meet scheduled for October 5th was changed to October 4th. He also announced Halloween will be on Tuesday, October 31st, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There was discussion about the upcoming Turkey Trot. The Mayor reported ongoing debate over the Girl Scout Garden in the park.

FISCAL OFFICER: The Fiscal Officer referred to previous discussion about the CRWP agreement for the mediation project in the park. She spoke to Kim Brewster and the Solicitor, and the \$35,887 referred to in the agreement included the construction work for the project. If Council wishes to go forward, a budget amendment may be required depending on the status of the park restroom project.

The Budget work session is Monday, October 2, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The Fiscal Officer requested the Department Heads submit their worksheets by Wednesday, September 27th, so that she can prepare them for Council by Friday. She provided Council with a list of projects that had been discussed over the course of the year for consideration during the work session.

The Mayor added that after the Tax Budget hearing, Treasurer Hitchcock questioned the Village's balances and asked if she was concerned about this question. The Fiscal Officer said that in 2021 there was a problem with having too much money. Now the Village officials are spending the money, and everyone keeps saying the "Village has the money". Treasurer Hitchcock was concerned with the Village's balances getting too low, which was the Budget Commission's fear because many times the reaction to having high balances is to spend it. Treasurer Hitchcock would like to see at least 20% of the expenses of the year prior as the carry over cash balance at the end of the year. This is necessary to ensure there is money to get the Village through until the end of February when the Village receives Real Estate tax collections. Other than that, the Tax Budget hearing went well in comparison to other entities in the County. The Fiscal Officer explained that the job of the Budget Commission is to make sure taxpayers' money is being spent correctly. They agreed with what the Village was doing but wanted the Village to be cautious to ensure it does not go from having good cash balances to low cash balances. In the hearing, she reminded the Budget Commission that the Village set up the reserve funds and while there are cash balances, they are assigned to projects. This money includes the Cemetery Fund, which is dedicated to expansion at some point, and money set aside for Bell Road East and for Large Equipment.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Berger had no report. The Finance Committee meeting was cancelled on September 22nd and needs to be rescheduled.

Berger made a motion to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$250 for a business breakfast on October 24th at 9:00 a.m. at the Martini Bar on East Washington, seconded by Galicki. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR: The Solicitor had nothing to report.

STREET COMMITTEE: Bell reported that there was an issue of Village storm water flowing onto 1401 Bell Rd. from Bell Rd. The recommendation was to install a pipe to eliminate erosion on the private property. A quote was obtained, and the cost would be covered with available storm water funds. The Fiscal Officer distributed a copy of the agreement. **Bell made a motion to approve the**

agreement with Horizon Excavation for Bell Road storm water work in the amount of \$6,974.37, seconded by Porter. The Solicitor said that there are items in the agreement to which the Village would normally not agree, such as putting 50% down with payment in full on the date the work is completed. Additionally, the Village does not agree to late charges. Finally, there is a 48-hour rescission period, which Council could opt to waive. Porter suggested amending the motion and also recommended waiving the permit fee. Other than holding them harmless, Porter suggested deleting everything else. The Mayor clarified that they would be eliminating the last paragraph of the agreement and the one above it. Porter reviewed what would be eliminated in the agreement. **Bell amended the previous motion to waive the permit fees, remove the 50% downpayment language from the first paragraph, and delete the entire second paragraph of the agreement. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Bell stated that the next committee meeting will be October 6, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. in the Street Commissioner's office.

Porter asked if the committee had received a quote for trenching behind the homes on Chillicothe Rd. Bell had not received one. The Fiscal Officer reported that the owner of R&B Trenching had passed away and it was necessary to find a new contractor.

Galicki said that at the last storm water meeting, there were residents of Chagrin Heights with concerns, and he asked if the Village would be going forward with any preliminary investigation about their flooding issues. Berger said this was on the Public Utilities Committee agenda for the next meeting. Permission is needed for the Street Commissioner and Engineer to walk the property.

The Mayor called Council's attention to the NOACA annual report that was included in the online Council packet.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Bell addressed the alternates to the Planning Commission and reported he and Canton met the three individuals and noted they were qualified. It had been brought to the Planning Commission's attention and he believed there were no issues with having alternates. **Bell made a motion to confirm the appointment of Greg Bruhn, Brad Fink, and Phyllis Marino as alternates to the Planning Commission, seconded by Canton. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

The next Building Committee meeting will be October 5, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department.

Regarding the Building Inspector, the Fiscal Officer advised that his contract is for \$48,250 per year and the charges to date total \$43,000. This only leaves \$5,250 for the remainder of the year and the Building Inspector has a \$2,000 monthly retainer which will total \$8,000. There will also be charges monthly for additional inspections. Bell said the committee will discuss this. She asked the committee to determine an estimate and advised that the monthly inspection fees range from \$2,600 to \$6,400 on top of the retainer. She will need this information to determine the amount of the amendment as well as how this will work relative to the Building Inspector's contract. Cavanagh said she did not understand what the issue was. The Fiscal Officer explained that the Village has a contract with the Building Inspector that states the Village pays him no more than \$48,250 per year and the Village has already spent \$43,000. In order to pay his retainer plus inspections, the amount will be well over the limit. She needs to know whether Council will approve this since there is a contract for \$48,250, and if so, it would be necessary to have a motion of how much to amend the budget. The Mayor thought it

would be an additional \$12,000. The Solicitor asked if this had ever happened before, and the Fiscal Officer advised it happened last year.

POLICE CHIEF: The Chief distributed material regarding the challenges that have been experienced by the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Team and a vehicle. Lt. Pocek provided a presentation. Pocek explained the team had reached a point where a vehicle was needed to transport equipment. Currently it is being transported in his personal truck or a police car and the insurance company was not happy with this. They started exploring vehicles about two months ago but found that the desired vehicle was not financially feasible for the Valley Enforcement Group (VEG). Then last Friday, he and the Chief received a phone call pertaining to someone who wished to donate \$100,000 to the team to purchase the vehicle. The donation would be accepted by South Russell.

Pocek said the vehicle is a 2024 E-450 Work Body, which is a specialty vehicle that will fit all the equipment. The original quote for it was \$106,000, but he and the Chief were able to get it under \$100,000. The vehicle itself is \$69,000 but must be sent to an upfitter to install an air conditioning unit, power inverter, and awning, bringing the cost to \$82,000. Additional required equipment like emergency lights, generators, etc., would bring the total to \$98,809.05. The goal would be to keep the costs under the \$100,000 donation. Pocek added that the team typically carries about \$100,000 worth of equipment. They have looked at many different options and this one would best serve the unit for 10 to 15 years.

Pocek discussed technical aspects and difficulties in using the Chagrin Valley Dispatch mobile command center, HAVOC, with the UAS equipment. He also addressed operating costs and estimated it would cost about \$1,000 per year. The yearly maintenance projection is \$3,000.

Pocek described a similar arrangement with Orange Village where a former ambulance was owned, maintained, and insured by the Village of Orange but was allowed to be used outside of the Village for the needs of a specialty team.

Pocek expressed a sense of urgency in securing the vehicle for reasons including the current auto strike, availability, and cost increases. Pocek further advised that the vehicle will accommodate the team for years to come.

The Chief stated that for the Village to insure the vehicle until the end of the policy term in February 2024, it would cost the Village \$152, which would be between \$400 and \$600 to insure it per year.

Bell verified that with the donation, the cost to the Village would be for maintenance, fuel, and insurance. The Chief concurred. There was confusion about the Orange Village ambulance, and the Chief clarified that it had not been used by UAS but rather other law enforcement entities. Cavanagh asked if the new vehicle would leave South Russell, and the Chief verified it would be going to the calls for which the UAS team is dispatched. The Chief further explained that he oversees the UAS team and Pocek is the Commander. The vehicle would be in their possession and at their disposal. It would be stationed at the Village campus with all the equipment. When there is a call, this unit would respond to the location. Pocek added that the team has 15 members from multiple jurisdictions, but only the members of South Russell would be driving it. Cavanagh said that it sounded like South Russell would be doing VEG a big favor. The Chief said it would be an asset for 16 other municipalities and townships. Pocek said another benefit for South Russell is that at the end of 15 years, the vehicle would have been well maintained and there would be resale value. The Chief explained that if the Village were to remove itself from VEG, the vehicle would belong to the Village.

Cavanagh asked if there was a downside to taking the donation. The Chief did not think so and conveyed that the Solicitor was consulted. The Solicitor did not think so. There are no restrictions with the donation other than the purchase of the vehicle. Porter asked if the Service Department staff would be able to take care of the vehicle. Pocek said yes and explained the similarities to vehicles currently owned and maintained by the Village. He stated that there was a strategic plan for storage once new buildings were built on the Village campus. The Street Commissioner said that he would work with them to get the vehicle indoors. The equipment is sensitive and requires constant maintenance with batteries and needs to be kept in a semi-climate-controlled environment. It is not an immediate concern, but the Street Commissioner is more than willing to free up some space for it. Cavanagh asked if a separate garage would be needed, and the Chief said storage would be preferred but there was no sense of urgency for that right now. The urgency was for the ability to accept the donation and acquire the vehicle. Canton asked if it could be garaged at the station, and the Chief explained that it would be too big and would be parked outside the station.

The Mayor stated that during the Trump-Biden debate at the Cleveland Clinic three years ago, the UAS was called to provide coverage. Pocek added that the UAS team was the first public safety aviation unit in the United States to fulfill a mission for the President of the United States. This was at a time when the program was in its infancy. Drones have not been part of public safety until recently. Being asked to provide this coverage spoke to the team's capabilities. Pocek said the team has a military advisor with the U.S. Coast Guard who specializes in communications and has helped the team with the ability to properly stream at no cost. He trains military and Federal agencies throughout the country and has acknowledged this unit as being one of the best in the United States. There is a benefit to the residents of South Russell having the team located here. The drones have been deployed in South Russell to find a person lost in the woods and with the vehicle located on the Village campus, it would be available in the event of a lost child or missing resident of the Lantern, for example.

Bell asked if the equipment is insured separately from the vehicle, and Pocek advised it is insured through VEG.

The Mayor stated that typically, the Village would move slowly with a \$100,000 donation to see if there are strings attached. A lot of research was conducted, and the Village will keep a good eye on the process.

Canton made a motion that Council vote and accept the donation of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing a fully equipped 2024 Ford E450 Rockport Work Body Vehicle, seconded by Galicki. Bell clarified that it was an anonymous donation, and the Chief clarified that at some point the donors will be recognized, but not yet. **Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Canton made a motion for Council to vote and approve that the Village be allowed to go out to bid for the vehicle, seconded by Galicki. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Regarding other business, the Chief advised that the traffic signal is functioning, and he will be reaching out to the HR Committee to discuss the School Safety Officer (SSO) project. The Mayor asked the Chief to explain the new signal operation. The Chief said it is now a modern traffic signal. The connection of some of the technology associated with the signal still needs to be completed. The return of the no turn on red policy will be evaluated. In speaking to the Engineer, it is believed that the original obstructions that impeded the view of southbound traffic has improved, so they will evaluate the need to put the no turn on red back up. This is from Bell Rd. east to Chillicothe Rd.

Canton asked if there were any challenges to the recently passed legislation concerning leashing dogs, and the Chief said no. Relative to the recent no camping legislation, Canton asked if there had been any violations. The Chief said no.

Berger asked if anything needed to be addressed for a part-time officer. The Chief said that when the candidate returns from his wedding and honeymoon, he will be sworn in.

The Mayor noted a change to the traffic signal with the timing of the left turn signal. The Chief explained that it is all based on wherever the traffic is waiting and whoever was waiting first. It is very efficient. Cavanagh asked for clarification about the cameras on the traffic signals. The Chief explained that the department has access to live footage from the cameras, but a service may have to be obtained to store the data for a period of time. Porter noted that the recordings from the Flock cameras are kept for two weeks and questioned whether it would be the same for the traffic signal cameras. The Chief had more research to do, but agreed this time period would be reasonable. Porter verified the matter would be discussed by the committee, and the Chief concurred.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Canton stated the next Safety Committee meeting will be October 5, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Police Department. **Canton made a motion to vote and approve Halloween festivities on October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., seconded by Galicki. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Canton made a motion to approve the Chagrin Booster Club's Turkey Trot on November 23rd at 10:00 a.m., seconded by Galicki. The Chief stated that no one reached out to him to present this. The Mayor said it would be the same old same old. **Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

HR COMMITTEE: Cavanagh said the committee will be meeting on Wednesday, September 27th at 1:00 p.m. in Village Hall to continue discussions about the Employee Handbook with Jim Budzik, Mansour Gavin. She again praised his efforts.

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE: **Cavanagh made a motion to change the date of the Cross-Country meet from October 5th to October 4th for Chagrin Falls Middle School, seconded by Canton. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Cavanagh made a motion to approve that the Veterans Lunch will be held on November 13th at 11:30 a.m. at the Sleepy Rooster, seconded by Canton. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Cavanagh advised that a check was received from Golden Gate Lodge F&AM for the flagpole for the pole, flag, light, bench, and plaques. **Cavanagh made a motion to accept the donation of \$3,900 from Golden Gate Lodge for those four purchases, seconded by Canton.** Porter recalled that this more than covers the cost, Cavanagh concurred, but added that the Street Commissioner has done a lot of work with the process. The Mayor said there is a stick in the ground on the East Washington side of the park marking where the flagpole will be installed. **Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Canton reported that there will be a Chagrin Falls Middle School Cross Country meet on September 26th. The Mayor said there are six volunteers to handle the parking. He met with the guy in charge, and it should not be an issue. Porter asked if the Village had received feedback from the school about the suitability of the park, and Cavanagh said she had spoken to the assistant coach who was very happy. The Mayor added that the coach was pleased that the Village wanted people to use the park.

PARK COMMITTEE: Cavanagh reported on the Fall Festival. The weather was perfect, and the vendors did a great job. There was a slight complaint about the noise of the saw demonstration, which can be addressed next year. She had received compliments of how nice it was. She acknowledged the Street Department guys, the Police, and everybody who pitched in. She gave a separate bravo to the Park Committee people who work on this all year in order for it to come off well. Cavanagh thanked the Chief for all of his help.

Canton thanked the Park Committee and everyone who participated in this. He makes a point to walk around the park and talk to people and observe. There were a lot of families having a good time. Cavanagh acknowledged Ted Kruse providing the apple cider press.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE: Berger said the committee met on September 18th. Regarding the solar panel project, the committee received a quote from Kokosing for the Police Department. The quote was a net of about \$33,476 and they projected an annual savings of \$1,836 which ran to about a 15-year return on investment. The committee is still waiting for other quotes. If the plan is to put solar panels on the Service Department building, the first thing that would need to be done would be to reroof the building. The Street Commissioner obtained a quote for \$40,000. This plays into the consideration for solar power there.

There is a meter at the southwest corner of Bell Rd. and Chillicothe Rd. going to the flagpole. It can be removed if the wire is run underneath Chillicothe Rd. The Street Commissioner has obtained a quote for \$4,000 total to bore the hole and run the wire. The cost of the meter is about \$100 per month, so the payback is a little over 3 years. **Berger made a motion to go forward with that project and to allow us to remove that meter by connecting it to our local power.** The Chief reported that the Street Commissioner said there would be a benefit because an additional wire could be run to the traffic light in the event the power goes out so it would not be necessary to drag the generator out to run the traffic lights. Berger added that once there is power to the corner, the next thing to consider would be to run the wire down to the Cemetery to eliminate that meter. **Porter seconded the motion.** The Fiscal Officer asked how this would be funded with regard to the budget. Porter said it would come from Service Department new equipment budget. The Fiscal Officer verified the money was already in the budget, and the Mayor said there was \$7,000 in it. Porter suggested modifying the motion that it not be more than \$4,500. **Berger amended the motion to not to exceed \$4,500. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Berger stated that a template for an easement agreement was distributed for the 11 Village ponds identified by the committee. The agreement obligates the Village to assess and monitor the ponds. It provides an opportunity that should the Village decide it wants to participate financially in maintaining the ponds it could, but it does not oblige the Village to maintain the ponds. The committee is asking Council to approve going forward with approaching the owners of the 11 ponds to get easement agreements in place. Cavanagh asked how the 11 ponds were identified when there are 40 in the Village. Porter said it was based on whether they were detention/retention ponds and how important they were in the overall scope of storm water in the Village. For example, there is Bullfrog Pond in Kensington Green and Chagrin Lakes has several ponds that have been identified as the most important. Ponds that are lower on the list are tiny ponds that do not have much impact with storm water. The first 11 are most important from a storm water point of view as identified by the Engineer. The Solicitor further explained that these eleven ponds were identified in the pond inventory provided by the Engineer. Most are owned by a homeowners' association (HOA), and one is owned by an

individual. Two are on the Lantern property. One is Bullfrog Pond, and another is the dry basin on Kensington Green. There were also a couple in Manor Brook. She offered to send Cavanagh the list of 11 ponds. The remaining 30 ponds on the Engineer's list are the ones that do not necessarily have storm water impact, but at some point the easement template may be used for them. Porter added that the list may also expand depending on the rainfall in the next 15 to 20 years. The idea is to build a baseline. He would not mind having easements for all 41 ponds. The Solicitor advised that the Village is offering a nominal fee of \$10 for each easement. Porter addressed the language in the easement regarding changes to the land, which it would not be. Cavanagh wanted to go on record to say that if someone wanted to opt in, they may request that. Porter agreed and said it is voluntary and the Village is offering every pond owner the opportunity to have their pond monitored at no expense to them. The Fiscal Officer asked if the cost of the assessments would be provided for the Budget work session for inclusion in the budget. Porter said there would be a line item for it with a small amount to start for the associated expenses of the easements. Porter projected that ultimately, the arrangement would be extended to all the ponds for monitoring, like the well monitoring, to give the Village an idea of what might need to be done going forward. **Porter seconded the motion. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.**

The committee was made aware that there were six homes north of Bell Rd. on the east side of Chillicothe Rd. that had flooded backyards during the July 25th storm. It was determined that a drainage ditch running along the backyards had become filled with debris and was not functioning. Therefore, when the work was done to clean out a drainage ditch by West Bel Meadow, the water was pushed into the drainage ditch, but it did not go anywhere. It overflowed and created a flooding situation for the backyards. **Berger made a motion to remedy the situation by approving that the Street Commissioner be empowered to solicit quotes to have about a 600-foot-long drainage area cleaned out to address that issue.** It would run parallel to Chillicothe from 5125 Chillicothe Rd. to 5101 Chillicothe Rd. Galicki asked if there was a list of the property owners. Berger said he did not. Galicki thought some of the properties were currently owned or rental properties of either contractors or former employees of the Village. By going forward with this, he asked if there were any legal issues in terms of the perception to the public. The Solicitor said no and explained that this was based on the opinion of the Engineer that due to the Village not cleaning out the drainage from Bel Meadow to Chillicothe for many years, the Village caused the situation. **Porter seconded the motion. Voice vote- ayes, all. Motion carried.**

Berger reported that the committee also discussed asking for easements from these six homeowners so that Village employees could access the drainage ditch to monitor it and make sure it is maintained. Porter said the Street Commissioner obtained permission slips from each of the homeowners giving the Village authorization to come onto the property to assess and remedy the situation.

Lastly, Berger advised that a proposal was made by the Village to Paw Paw Lake for the acquisition of the silt pond. The response received was that the homeowners were not interested in selling the property. Their counter proposal was to grant an easement for Village access. This was discussed at the Public Utilities Committee meeting and the members determined it was not in the best interest of the Village. The recommendation to Council was to reject the counter proposal but continue to have discussions about working together. The Mayor addressed the viewing audience and stated that this was not over. Galicki asked if the Village had communicated the decision to Paw Paw Lake, and Berger said yes.

Porter spoke about the September 19, 2023, Special Council meeting for storm water. He summarized that the policy of the Village is to not be reactive anymore to storm water issues but to be proactive in the Village as a whole. When problems are identified, rather than taking forever to study them and come up with an idea, the Village is acting in the best interest of the Village to take care of the problems. Manor Brook Phase I and the Central Retention Basin were the two biggest projects, and now the Village has a handle on storm water and will continue to prevent flooding in the Village.

Regarding storm water, Bell noted that the corner lot still has a paved driveway and parking area and asked if it would be advisable to remove this and plant grass. Galicki concurred and was surprised that this did not occur with the demolition of the house. Other than convenience for contractors to park there, there was no real reason to maintain the blacktop area. He supported Bell's proposal. The Mayor said after the Farmers' Market ends for the season, it would be blocked off and the Street Commissioner would handle it.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Bell provided a third reading of an ordinance amending Section 220.01 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of South Russell and declaring an emergency. Bell made a motion to adopt, seconded by Porter. Roll call – ayes, all. **ORD 2023-56**

Porter provided a second reading of an ordinance approving the contract agreement between the Village of South Russell and Chagrin River Watershed Partners for technical assistance of the Village Hall and Park Wetland Remediation at a cost not to exceed \$35,887, authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract agreement on behalf of the Village, and declaring an emergency. Porter made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Berger. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Porter made a motion to adopt, seconded by Berger. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2023-57**

Canton introduced an ordinance approving the updated Memorandum of Understanding regarding the deployment of a School Resource Officer, authorizing the Mayor to execute the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on behalf of the Village of South Russell, authorizing the Police Chief to execute the updated Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Village of South Russell Police Department, and declaring an emergency. Canton made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. The Chief clarified that the ordinance pertains to the existing School Resource Officer MOU. The Solicitor explained that the changes were driven by Chagrin Falls and since the Village is part of the agreement, the Village must sign off on the changes. Cavanagh clarified it has nothing to do with Gurney, and the Chief said no. Canton made a motion to adopt, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2023-58.**

Canton introduced a resolution authorizing the sale of personal property not needed by the Village and declaring an emergency. Canton made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Canton made a motion to adopt, seconded by Berger. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **RES 2023-59**

Berger introduced an ordinance amending the Annual Appropriations increasing Safety Fund expenses \$100,000 and declaring an emergency. Berger made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Berger made a motion to adopt, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2023-60.**

Berger introduced an ordinance transferring \$300,000 from the Income Tax fund to the General Fund \$100,000 and to the Safety Fund \$200,000 and declaring an emergency. Berger made a motion to waive readings, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. Berger made a motion to adopt, seconded by Galicki. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried. **ORD 2023-61.**

BILLS LIST: Galicki made a motion to ratify the bills list of September 15, 2023, in the amount of \$240,655.30, seconded by Bell. Voice vote – ayes, Galicki, Porter, Bell, Cavanagh. Berger and Canton abstained. Motion carried.

NEW/OTHER: Galicki and Porter had no new business.

Regarding the Fall Festival, Bell congratulated the Park Committee, Council members Cavanagh and Canton, and thanked Ted Kruse for providing the equipment.

Bell reported that Chagrin Valley Paving began the Chillicothe Rd. project and he assumed they were starting north and moving south since Bainbridge was still under construction.

Berger forwarded an email from Jackson Quinn, a resident of South Russell and a student at Marietta College. He was involved in a water quality study and sent Berger an email asking the Village to look at it. This matter will be addressed through the Public Utilities Committee.


The Mayor referred to an upcoming Zoom meeting with Kokosing, and the Fiscal Officer clarified that this could not be part of the committee meeting as it is not permitted. The Mayor said he was going to tell Kokosing that nothing was happening. The meeting will involve the Mayor, Kokosing, and one member of the committee.

Canton made a motion that his absence at the October 23rd Council meeting be excused, seconded by Berger. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.

Cavanagh thanked Council for allowing her to have the Centennial luncheon where there were just shy of 50 people who came to eat and share old memories. The Administrative Assistant transcribed much of what was said and her hope was to make this a part of some permanent record of those that are the grandchildren and great grandchildren of our founders. The Fiscal Officer clarified that these minutes once proofread will be minutes of the public meeting. Cavanagh said she received a lot of compliments for the event.

Cavanagh said the next Properties Committee meeting will be October 5th at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Being that there was no further business before Council, Berger made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. seconded by Bell. Voice vote – ayes, all. Motion carried.



William G. Koons, Mayor



Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by Leslie Galicki