

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
MINUTES OF VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 8, 2022

The Village of Blanchester Council met in regular session on December 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. with the honorable Mr. John Carman, Mayor, presiding.

All Present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance and had Opening Prayer

Roll Call	Mr. Harry Brumbaugh	Present
	Mr. William Garner	Present
	Mr. Don Gephart	Present
	Mr. Reilly Hopkins	Present
	Mr. Tyler McCollister	Present
	Mr. Josh Parks	Present

**Amended Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Gephart to approve amended agenda, removing #1 Ordinance 2022.032 from new business, and adding Rezoning under new business.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. McCollister, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None

**Motion Passed**

**Public Comment**

Mr. Constable spoke asking about possibly moving money from Land and Buildings and from the general fund to help the Police Department. Mr. McCollister thanked the Police Department for helping to recover some of the items that had been stolen from his property.

**Guest Speaker:** Brenda Wehmer, Dinsmore – discussed details and answered questions regarding the USDA loan we are getting for the Police Department for vehicles.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Brumbaugh to approve minutes from November 10, 2022, meeting.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. McCollister, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None

**Motion Passed**

**Bills and Reallocations**

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Gephart to approve Bills and Reallocations.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. McCollister, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None

**Motion Passed**

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee** – Finance committee met and discussed the men’s bathroom renovation. Cost of renovation will be \$23,594. The food pantry has offered to give \$2,000 toward the project, as well as the BPA agreeing to pay a percentage of the cost as well. The finance committee voted to move forward and bring the project to the council for a vote stating that the project will not begin until after the first of the year.

It was moved by Gephart and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to move ahead with the \$23,594 renovation to the men’s bathroom, and that a congratulatory letter be sent to the contractor letting them know that they were awarded the job. Mr. Hopkins will supply the Mayor with the email address where the letter is to be sent.

**Vote:** Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks  
Nay – Mr. McCallister, Mr. Garner

### **Motion Passed**

It was moved by Mr. Gephart and seconded by Mr. Parks to excuse Mr. McCollister from the meeting at 7:24 pm

**Vote:** Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None  
Absent – Mr. McCollister

Discussion of pay scale for Mayor and Council changes - take the \$30,000 out of Ordinance, the pay for the Mayor would be a straight \$17,000 a year, all council members and BPA board members would receive \$3,200 and remove any additional amounts for council pro tempore or BPA board chairman.

Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Gephart asked to have the Solicitor look up the ordinance review it and rewrite it to state the above amounts for the next meeting.

**Safety & Service** – Nothing new to report.

**Cemetery** – Carla is working with the software from UAN for the cemetery to see if it will work for what she needs. We are waiting for the contract from M.E.L.S. Services for the mowing and weed eating care of the cemetery.

### **Old Business**

1. After hearing additional information from Sheakley regarding the Drug-Free Safety Program council decided to participate.

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Gephart to approve joining the Drug-Free program through Sheakley/BWC.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None  
Absent – Mr. McCollister

**Motion Passed**

**New Business**

1. Re-zoning of Dominos building at 209 South Broadway Street and adjacent property at 211 South Broadway to be rezoned from B1 to B4.

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Gephart to approve Re-zoning of 209 and 211 South Broadway Street.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None  
Absent- Mr. McCollister

**Motion Passed**

**Department Reports**

**Solicitor** – Nothing to report.

**Parks** – Breakfast with Santa went very well they served about 400 children. The lighting of the tree was well attended also.

**Police** – The Chief gave a report on November calls that the officers had responded to, as well as all of the activities that have been on going in the village recently. He also talked about the Chamber dinner where he received the years Chambers Choice award. The chief also discussed that Peoples Bank told him they are willing to donate \$1,000 toward and AED machine for the Police Department/Village, they are in the process of looking into pricing to find one to purchase. The Chief also mentioned we should be receiving approximately \$1,041.26 from the Opioid settlement fund this year.

**Street** – Nothing new to report

**Zoning** – BP has finally filled for a permit to begin the project on the station.

**Fiscal** – Fiscal Officer stated that she spent a day in Jeffersonville meeting with their Fiscal of Officer discussing the budget and other parts of the job. The Jeffersonville Fiscal Officer has agreed to help with the end of the year closing. The budget will be ready for review for the meeting on December 29, 2022.

**Mayor** – Mayor Carman stated UDF is actively working to complete open issues and working toward a closing date with Taco Bell. Orchard view phase 1 projects should go out for bid in approximately June, so hopefully the project could start in the fall. It was brought to council that Cyndi Vonderhaar had asked to transfer her sick day from her previous job, after talking with the

Solicitor he agreed that the transfer from one Government entity to another was completely legal.  
So, Ms. Vonderhaar's sick days will be transferred.

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Gephart that the meeting be adjourned at  
7:58 pm.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks  
Nay – None  
Absent – Mr. McCollister

**Motion Passed**

Approved: December 29, 2022

Mayor: John M. Carman

Attest: Cynthia J. Vonderhaar