

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MINUTES OF VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 30, 2024

The Village of Blanchester Council met in Special session on December 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. with the honorable John Carman, Mayor, presiding.

Mr. William Garner	Present
Mr. Don Gephart	Present
Mr. John Hill	Present
Mr. Reilly Hopkins	Present
Mrs. Lynn Lewis	Present
Mr. Josh Parks	Present

Officer Logan Robinson was voted as Officer of the Year by his peers, and was given recognition of that award prior to the start of the meeting.

Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Parks and seconded by Mrs. Lewis to approve the agenda with changes that were made.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Public Comment - James Constable 135 Orchard View Lane, Blanchester – Wanted to thank the Safety Committee for getting the sidewalks in front of the Post Office and in front of Family Dollar, would like to see the Fence installed around the playground in front of the Municipal Building now. Would like to see what the Revenue is for the Village as Appropriations are due.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Parks and seconded by Mrs. Lewis to approve the both sets of Minutes from December 12, 2024.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Approval of Bills and Reallocations

It was moved by Mr. Parks and seconded by Mrs. Lewis to approve the Bills and Reallocations from December 30, 2024.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee – Nothing to report

Safety & Service – Nothing to Report

Cemetery – Nothing to Report.

Old Business

Ordinance 2024.021 Ordinance initiating Amendment to the Village of Blanchester Zoning Map.

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to suspend the rules for this Ordinance, thereby making this a final reading.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Parks to approve this ordinance.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

Ordinance 2024.022 Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 90.017 titled, Zoning Ordinance of Blanchester.

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to suspend the rules for this Ordinance, thereby making this a final reading.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Parks to approve this ordinance.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Hill to allow the mayor to enter a two-year contract with Flock Cameras to provide the Village with 4 cameras.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Parks to move forward with the Logo Design with a not to exceed \$50 for any additional work. Council agreed on Logo #3 at this time.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

New Business

Temporary Appropriations were reviewed in detail with council and all questions were answered.

Ordinance 2024.023 Ordinance to establish the 2025 Temporary Appropriations for the Village of Blanchester.

It was moved by Mr. Gephart and seconded by Mrs. Lewis to declare the Ordinance an emergency per **Section 4** and adopt the 2025 Temporary Appropriations as presented in Exhibit A.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

Ordinance 2024.024 is an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2005.008, TITLED “A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER ADOPTING A PERSONNEL POLICY” the Employee Handbook for the Village of Blanchester.

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mrs. Parks to declare the Ordinance an emergency per **Section 4** and adopt the ordinance as presented in Exhibit A.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

The mayor asked council for approval to purchase of a new Computer, not to exceed \$2,013 for the front desk. We will reuse the monitors we currently have.

It was moved by Mr. Parks and seconded by Mrs. Lewis to allow the mayor to purchase a new computer for the front desk.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Gephart to approve the dates for 2025 Council Meeting dates.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

Department Reports

Solicitor – The Solicitor spoke on bringing action against the abandoned (fire destroyed) buildings in the middle of town and gave direction on how to proceed with them. The solicitor also gave information on someone else taking over the cemetery and what that would consist of.

Parks – Nothing to report

Police – The Chief discussed body worn cameras and he clarified that no personal information will be released on a public records request. We are still waiting to find out if we received a grant for these.

Street – Nothing to report

BPA – Let everyone know that their next meeting would be 1/9/25 at 6:00.

Zoning – Still looking on an individual to take over the zoning duties.

Fiscal – Nothing to report

Mayor – Nothing to report

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Parks that the meeting be adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks
 Nay – None

Motion Passed

Approved: January 23, 2025

Mayor: John M. Cannon

Attest: Regina Johnson