

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MINUTES OF VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 11, 2023

The Village of Blanchester Council met in regular session on May 11, 2023 at 7:04 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

Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. McCollister to approve agenda.

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

Motion Passed

Public Comment

James Constable – Asked the Council to consider paying for the Electric, Water and Sewer for the Senior Citizens Center. They do not receive any money from any of the levies and the Village pays for the Fire and EMS services. He also asked about the Income Tax Ordinance that was on the agenda and wanted to know if it was an earned income tax or just a regular income tax. Mr. Constable gave a handout of errors he felt had been made on the BPA accounts at the Auditors office, he stated that he had been told they were being looked at. He also brought up the Revenue report for the General account this year there was \$170,000 in Kilowatts tax money when 2 years ago he was told there was \$400,000 that came to us in Kilowatt tax he is asking where the remainder of the money is.

Mr. Hopkins asked that we discuss with the BPA what the cost would be to provide those services to the Senior Citizens Center

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. McCollister to approve minutes from the April 27, 2023 regular meeting, and all minutes presented from January 1, 2023 thru April 27, 2023.

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. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Brumbaugh to approve Bills and Reallocations.

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

Motion Passed

Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Parks and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to move into Executive Session at 7:15 pm

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

Motion Passed

Present in Executive Session was Mayor Carman, Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Garner, Mr. Gephart, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. McCollister, Mr. Parks, Chief Houghton and Jim Barbieri, Solicitor.

It was moved by Mr. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to end the Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 7:59 pm

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

Motion Passed

It was moved by Mr. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Parks to allow the Solicitor to draw up a contract for the Temporary Prosecutor not to exceed \$60 per hour. Upon approval of the contract by Chief Houghton and the Temporary Prosecutor, they will be permitted to move forward with the contract signing without the matter being brought back to Council for additional approval.

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

Motion Passed

It was moved by Mr. McCollister and seconded by Mr. Hopkins to table discussion of Income Tax Ordinance 2023.006 Option 1 and Option 2.

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

Motion Passed

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Gephart stated that the committee met and was recommending opening an account with Star Ohio. The committee had asked about the CD's and which ones would be financially responsible to move to Star Ohio. The third thing was suggesting a 1% Earning Tax to fund the Police Department.

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. McCollister to complete the paperwork and open an account with Star Ohio.

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

Motion Passed

Safety & Service – No meeting but Mr. Parks stated that he has had many complaints from residents about people parking along the streets and making it hard for people to back out of their driveways, and pull out of streets due, to the fact that they cannot see if anything is coming because of the cars parked along the street. He asked that anyone that had a driveway please park in it and not along the street. He is talking to ODOT about no parking signs on some streets. Mr. Parks also asked for an update on the 25 MPH signs discussed at the last meeting.

Cemetery – Nothing to report

Old Business

New Business

1. Income Tax Ordinance 2023.006

Department Reports

Solicitor – Nothing to Report

Parks – The Circus was in town, had a great turn out. They had to change venues at the last minute due to the ground at the Veterans Park being wet. Due to the change in the venue site the permit had to be changed at the County level. The parks would like to thank the BPA for all their help, Jeff and the Zoning Department, Street Department, Fire and EMS, Wildcat Porta Lets and Kidd Excavating. Also had a lot of people help to sell tickets to help make the Circus a success, thanks to BDK, Peoples Bank, First National Bank, Maks, Barrs Pharmacy, Paul Hall & Associates Insurance, and the Senior Center. Mr. McCollister stated he wanted to thank Tom Lee and all the Parks Department for all their hard work getting things changed so fast it was a great event. May 19th is the first Party in the Park with a band and food trucks.

Police – Not able to attend

Street –The 25 MPH street signs have been installed 2 were installed near the Municipal Building. Paul is working with ODOT to help with the crosswalks.

Zoning – It was asked that there be a better report given for the Zoning Department meetings. Several Discussions were had on properties that need rezoned that were tabled until more information is obtained. Talked about some issues with occupancy permits and what responsibilities each person has. Jeff stated that there will be a new convenience store going in at 939 Cherry Street.

Fiscal – Nothing to report

Mayor – Mayor received a call that Race Across America is going to be coming through Blanchester again this year. They asked if BPA could supply electric service as they did in the past near McDonalds for their time station. They will be reaching back out with more information soon. Mr. Hopkins asked that Jeff come down and explain to the Council and Community some of the projects that occur and how timelines are affected for projects. Mr. Hopkins also asked for an update on Orchard View, Mayor stated that it has not went out to bid yet it still must go through the process for the Grant which will not be awarded until probably June or July. As it looks now the project will probably not happen until fall.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. McCollister that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 pm.

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

Motion Passed

Approved: 5/25/2023

Mayor: John M. Cannon

Attest: Rynthia Vanderhaar