

Village Of Castalia
April 8, 2025
Meeting Minutes

The Village of Castalia Council met in Regular Session on April 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Castalia Hall located at 126 Main Street, Castalia, Ohio. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Johnson with the following in attendance: Jim Johnson, Barb Weyer, Si Nicholson, Jake Smith, Cindy Crawford, Fiscal Officer Kathy Niehm, Legal Counsel Randy Strickler. Georgia Artrip was absent.

Mayor Johnson introduced Erie County Sheriff Paul Sigsworth. Sheriff Sigsworth stated he was here this evening as he wanted to see if Council needed anything. Council thanked Sheriff Sigsworth for his time.

Mayor Johnson introduced Margaretta Schools superintendent Ed Kurt and school treasurer Diane Keegan. Ms. Keegan distributed a flyer to Council members with a breakdown of the new school project. There was a general discussion of the school construction project. Ms. Keegan stated the new school would be in use during the middle of the 2026-2027 school year.

Mr. Nicholson made a Motion to Excuse Mrs. Artrip from the Meeting. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Mr. Nicholson Made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the March 25, 2025 Minutes with the correction. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Mr. Smith Made a Motion to Approve the Finance Report, Dated 4/6/2025. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Mr. Smith Made a Motion to Approve the Pay Warrants, Dated 3/27/2025-4/6/2025. Mrs. Weyer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Mr. Smith Made a Motion to Accept the Receipts, Dated 3/31/2025-4/6/2025. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Zoning Inspector Tom Johnson stated he had a permit for 421 S. Washington Street for an accessory building. There will be a Planning Commission meeting on April 30, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Mr. Johnson stated all Commission members will be notified.

Margaretta Township Road Superintendent Bob Biglin stated there are an old rail marks on North Washington Street near the Cement Street intersection from where the railroad crossing used to be. Mr. Biglin stated he will contact Brad Link of Perkins Township about street sweeping the Village streets for the Spring this year. Mr. Biglin stated he will check and see what signs the

Village needs as the Township has a sign grant. Mr. Biglin stated he has not received an invoice for salt yet and Ms. Niehm stated she did not either.

Fiscal Officer Kathy Niehm stated the March bank statement was completed and balanced. Ms. Niehm notified Council that the information on the ARPA/Covid website was not correct and she had sent numerous emails (as no telephone number is available) inquiring what can be done. Ms. Niehm also commented that she is on an email chain with other fiscal officers from Ohio who are having the same issues with some being denied claims that were once approved. Ms. Niehm will follow up and if she needs to will contact U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur's office. Ms. Niehm stated she is going through the files before she gets the notice about the upcoming audit and she is very busy with her full-time job as so far they are not hiring someone and have increased her work load which has increased her work hours. Ms. Niehm has asked to postpone the renovation to her office due to all that is going on until the fall. Ms. Niehm has stated she will be retiring on June 30th from her full-time job. Finally, Ms. Niehm stated the 1st half taxes were received and to please review the appropriation status report first then check the fund status report as with the upcoming projects Council wants to do the money will go fast!

There was a discussion on compensation of Zoning members. The ORC states Village Zoning Boards cannot be compensated.

Mrs. Weyer is waiting on more information from Firelands IT regarding the agreement for the Village.

Mr. Strickler stated he will write up a resolution for a VRBO and Council stated they also needed a resolution for a 1 Mill Road and Bridge Renewal for 2025 to be collected in 2026.

Mayor Johnson stated ODOT will start the construction of State Route 101 on 7/21/2025. It was discussed a traffic study should be done after the school is built.

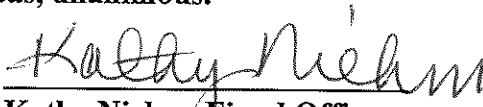
Mrs. Weyer stated she is waiting for word (She called on Friday) from Damschroder Roofing as to when they will start on the roof for the Village Hall. Mrs. Weyer stated she included the yard waste pickup on the website. Mrs. Weyer stated Kelly Ried called and stated she will clean on Tuesday due to the Easter holiday. Mrs. Weyer stated the newsletter will go out next week. Mrs. Weyer mentioned there is a bill in the State legislature that there is to be no more replacement levies if it passes.

Mr. Smith stated he sent Council members his spreadsheet.

Mrs. Crawford stated last Wednesday was the Zoom meeting with ODOT and one of the recommendations were to install a new traffic cabinet. Mrs. Crawford stated the Village could try for a 100% grant.

With no further business to come before Council, Mr. Nicholson made a Motion to Adjourn. Mrs. Weyer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.


James Johnson, Mayor


Kathy Niehm, Fiscal Officer

