

VILLAGE OF CASTALIA

MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2023

The Council of the Village of Castalia met in Regular Session on December 5, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. in the Village Hall at 126 Main Street, Castalia, Ohio. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Johnson followed by Roll Call with the following in attendance: Mayor Jim Johnson, Jake Smith, Georgia Artrip, Cindy Crawford, Si Nicholson, Counsel Randy Strickler, and Fiscal Officer Kathy Niehm. President Pro Tem Barb Johnson was absent.

Mrs. Artrip made a motion to excuse Mrs. Weyer. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Amend the Agenda to include Ordinance for Solicitor, Approval for applying for a grant from PEP and Accepting a grant from Erie County Community Foundation, Estimate from John Gysan, and an Executive Session ORC 121.22G1 to Discuss salaries of a public employee. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Artrip made a motion to Approve the 11/28/2023 Minutes. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Mr. Nicholson made a motion to Approve the Finance Report dated 12/3/2023. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Mr. Nicholson made a motion to Approve the Pay Warrants dated 11/268/2023 to 12/3/2023. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Approve the Receipts dated 11/30/2023 to 12/3/2023. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous. Motion Carried.

There was no zoning report as Zoning Inspector Mr. Tom Johnson was absent.

Mr. John Gysan presented to Council his estimate of \$13,500 (\$1,350 per monthly pick up) to provide debris pick up for the year 2024. Mr. Gysan asked Council if they could let him know by the first of the year if his estimate is accepted. Mayor Johnson thanked Mr. Gysan for his work for the Village.

Fiscal officer Kathy Niehm gave her report to Council. Ms. Niehm stated the November bank reconciliation was completed and balanced. Ms. Niehm stated the check from the

Erie County Community Foundation for the \$3,500 grant has been deposited. Ms. Niehm stated the auditors doing the audit asked if she could make corrections from the previous audits. Ms. Niehm stated Council needs to stop spending money for the year.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Suspend the Seconded Reading Rule for the Appointment of a Solicitor for the Village of Castalia. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford. Motion Carried.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Approve # 2023-17 An Ordinance Providing for the Appointment of a Solicitor for the Village of Castalia and Declaring an Emergency. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Artrip made a motion to Apply for a Grant from PEP. The Amount is up to \$1,000. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes. Mayor Johnson will complete the paperwork for the grant.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Apply for the 2024 Erie County Community Foundation Grant for \$7,000. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes. Motion Carried. Mayor Johnson stated the grant application is due by 2/1/2024 and he will complete the paperwork.

Round Table

Mayor Johnson asked Mr. Strickler if he had reviewed the road manual. Mr. Strickler stated he did not but will work on it for the next meeting. There was a discussion on the 2022-15 Noise Ordinance. Mr. Strickler stated he will check it and let Council know. Mayor Johnson stated he has not heard any news regarding the small business loan for the roads.

Mrs. Artrip made a motion to Approve Purchasing 10 Stop Signs. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes. Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson stated Council did a fantastic job in review of 2023 and listed the following: Rework of downtown business sidewalk, resurface Adams, Lester, Oak, Walnut, Spring, Swan, Village & Township agreement, etc. Mayor Johnson stated the goals for 2024 are as follows: Finish repair and resurface of Lucas and Bardwell, Resurface Jefferson, Market, Harrison Court; continue to address water cress in the tail race; continue to address storm water and drainage issues and continue to address traffic issues.

Mr. Smith stated Council needs to continue to be fiscally responsible in 2024. Mrs. Crawford stated she needed the photographs from the Zoning Inspector of the electrical box of the traffic lights.

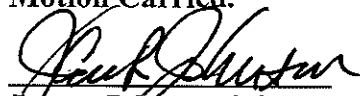
Mrs. Artrip stated the Christmas in the Village event was very well attended and there were no traffic issues.

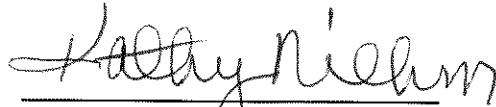
Mr. Tim Sessler stated the street light at the dead end looks like it is almost burned out. Mayor Johnson stated he will call.

Mr. Nicholson made a motion to Exit the Regular Session and enter into the Executive Session for a Discussion of Salaries for a Public Employee ORC 121.22G1, with no Business to Follow at 7:46 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes, Mrs. Crawford, yes. Motion Carried.

Mr. Smith made a motion to Exit the Executive Session and return to the Regular Session at 7:51 p.m. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes. Motion Carried.

With no further business to come before Council, Mr. Nicholson made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, Unanimous. Motion Carried.


James Johnson, Mayor


Kathy Niehm, Fiscal Officer

