

Village of Castalia

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025

The Village of Castalia Council met in Regular Session on January 14, 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, Cindy Crawford, Barb Weyer, Jake Smith, Si Nicholson, Georgia Artrip, Legal Counsel Randy Strickler and Fiscal Officer Kathy Niehm.

Mr. Nicholson made a Motion to Approve the 12/17/2024 Regular Session Minutes. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer made a Motion to Approve the Finance Report, dated 1/12/2025. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer made a Motion to Approve the Pay Warrants, dated 12/14/2024-1/12/2025. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Crawford made a Motion to Accept the Receipts, dated 12/18/2024-12/31/2024. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Smith made a Motion to elect Barb Weyer as President Pro Tem of Council. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Mr. Smith made a Motion to Elect Si Nicholson as Vice President of Council. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous.

Ordinance #2025-01 To Make Permanent Appropriations for Current Expenses-Other Expenditures of the Village of Castalia, State of Ohio for the Calendar Year 2025. Mrs. Weyer made a Motion to Approve the Permanent Appropriations for 2025. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mrs. Artrip, yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Inspector Tom Johnson stated the resident who had the appliances on their property had them removed. Mr. Johnson gave Council the 2024 Zoning Report which totaled \$1,106.00. Mr. Johnson stated his computer had crashed and he will need a computer and asked Council to purchase a laptop.

Ms. Niehm informed Council she had received correspondence from Columbia Gas that the natural gas usage at the cement Street address was very high. Mayor Johnson completed the form from Columbia Gas and Ms. Niehm will mail to Columbia Gas.

Mrs. Crawford Made a Motion to Authorize the Mayor in Writing a Grant for 2 Solar Powered Flashing Speed Signs for the Village. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Mayor Johnson stated he is working on the Erie County Foundation Grant and will need the latest audit from the State of Ohio and a tax-exempt form. Ms. Niehm stated she will provide the information to the Mayor. Mayor Johnson stated he would like to request 2 of the solar powered flashing speed signs for the Village for the grant. Mr. Nicholson will also gather information for the basketball court for a future grant.

There was a discussion on the parking ban when there is snow on Village Streets. Legal counsel, Randy Strickler stated he will need to re-write the ordinance. Mayor Johnson will contact Sheriff Sigsworth to get his input for the ordinance.

There was a discussion on the property tax revaluation in Erie County as taxes have gone up.

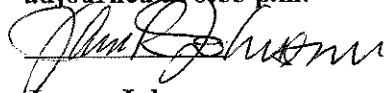
There was a discussion on the Scott Gast legislation that was in the Ohio House to rename a road in Gast's name. Council asked Mr. Strickler to write a letter that Council is not in favor of renaming something in Scott Gast's name. **Mrs. Artrip Made a Motion for Council to Withdraw Support of the Scott Gast Memorial Highway (State Route 269) that was Previously Approved by Former Council; and to Set Criteria for Future Renaming: 1. Must be a Village of Castalia Resident 2. Significant Contribution to the Village of Castalia 3. As Determined by the Current Council. Mrs. Weyer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Artrip, yes; Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mrs. Crawford; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes. Motion carried.**

Mrs. Weyer stated the hand dryer in the women's restroom was not working. (It was later noted that the breaker was off and the hand dryer is now working). Mrs. Weyer will make an appointment to meet with Jeff of Firelands IT about IT services for the Village, such as secure email addresses and support for the Fiscal Officer's computer. Mrs. Weyer also stated a bill passed for the State of Ohio looking into dissolving villages.

Mr. Nicholson stated he will get information to Council regarding the basketball court.

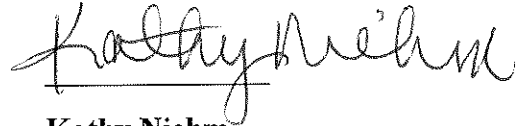
Mrs. Crawford stated she has not heard back from ODOT.

With no further business to come before the Council; Mr. Nicholson made a Motion to Adjourn. Mrs. Artrip seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



James Johnson

Mayor



Kathy Niehm

Fiscal Officer